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VORONTSOV PARIS NEWS CONFERENCE ON INF PROPOSAL

LD071928 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1530 GMT 7 Mar 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A news conference took place in Paris dedicated to the new Soviet peace initiatives:

[A. Potapov, identified by screen caption] This news conference in the Soviet Embassy in Paris has drawn the most intent attention from the press, that of French journalists and of foreign correspondents accredited in the French capital. This interest is understandable: Comrade Vorontsov, leader of the Soviet delegation at the talks with the United States in Geneva, USSR first deputy foreign affairs minister, is meeting journalists. The subject is the new Soviet initiative to liquidate within the next 5 years U.S. and USSR medium-range missiles in Europe. Cameras of two French television programs, three major U.S. television companies and television teams from other countries are covering it. Comrade Vorontsov has just arrived in Paris from Geneva where another round of the Soviet-American talks has ended. [video shows journalists and cameramen in a hall]

[Begin recording] [Vorontsov] The United States has responded to our proposals by submitting its own draft treaty on medium-range missiles based completely on the accord reached in Reykjavik. No doubt, we have a lot of work to do, the work for developing [vyrabotka] the text of a treaty that could be signed in the near future. There has been no such treaty or agreement so far, that is a treaty on a cardinal reduction in the most important nuclear arms -- medium-range arms. These all are very powerful types of arms and their liquidation in Europe will be a historical step; a historical one, I repeat, for as we envisage it, the liquidation of so many and such complex and terrible arms in front of the whole world will be the first event of this level in the world. This event will change by itself, we think, the psychology of people of the world. This will become a proof of the fact that nuclear disarmament is possible. I personally think the act of signing such a treaty will become an extraordinary event in the world, and not in Europe alone. [video shows Vorontsov speaking] [end recording]

[Potapov] Journalists asked Comrade Vorontsov many questions concerning the new Soviet initiative. What about official Paris? It is well known the French Foreign Ministry and the minister himself opposed sharply, at first, the idea of liquidating medium-range missiles in Europe, alleging that this threatens the security of the West. When it transpired that many Western governments are taking positive stands and after President Reagan spoke, France found itself isolated so to speak among its own allies and a kind of correction from French ruling circles became necessary, and statements from President Mitterrand and Prime Minister Chirac followed. Journalists were interested in the Soviet response to the French position. [video shows journalists and Potapov]

[Begin recording] [Vorontsov] The French president and prime minister have supported the idea of concluding a treaty on the liquidation of medium-range missiles in Europe. Therefore, I do not see any complications with France on this issue between the United States and Soviet Union negotiating and France, from the other side [as heard] [mezhdu peregovarivayushchimisya soedinenymi shtatami i sovetskim Soyuzomi Frantsiey s drugoy storony]. [video shows Vorontsov]

[Potapov] But there are nuclear missiles in both France and England, what about them? [Video shows a journalist asking a question]

[Vorontsov] When we are talking about the complete liquidation of nuclear arms in Europe, then there will be, to an extent, a question of the nuclear arms that both France and Great Britain possess. I would like to remind you that both France and Great Britain have not only strategic arms but also arms of a shorter range than strategic ones. Of course, from the point of view of the opposition of the two military blocs -- France is not a member of a military bloc, while England is -- this will have a considerable importance, [video shows Vorontsov answering] [end recording]

[Potapov] The Paris news conference has highlighted for Western media the clear, lucid and consistent policy of the Soviet side in the area of nuclear disarmament.

Reciprocal Verification

LD062251 Moscow World Service in English 2200 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] The chief Soviet negotiator at the Geneva talks with the United States on nuclear and space weapons, Yuliy Vorontsov, has said the USSR is ready to accept any system of verification of the future agreement with the United States on medium-range missiles in Europe. At a press conference in Paris Yuliy Vorontsov also pointed out that verification should be strictly reciprocal.

BOGACHEV: U.S. USING VERIFICATION AS 'EXCUSE'

PM091421 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 7 Mar 87 First Edition pp 1, 4

[TASS military observer V. Bogachev article: "Observing the Reykjavik Accords"]

[Text] U.S. President Ronald Reagan has publicly welcomed the proposal by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on medium-range missiles and has announced that Washington has prepared a detailed draft of a corresponding treaty, which would be based on the specific formula agreed upon last October during the Reykjavik summit.

At the same time, U.S. representatives told NATO envoys at a Brussels briefing that Washington will not show any "undue haste" in concluding an agreement. A State Department spokesman officially confirmed the draft presented by the U.S. side at the Geneva talks does not yet contain any U.S. proposals on verifying [proverka] the observance of the agreement. Yet Kenneth Adelman, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, claims it is precisely in the sphere of verification [proverka] that the Soviet Union is preparing a "bitter pill."

Reports have appeared in the press that, despite the White House's assurances about its desire to unswervingly follow the formula adopted in Reykjavik, the U.S. Administration is inclined toward including the "toughest demands ever advanced by the United States" in the U.S. draft. The newspapers are claiming that the United States intends to propose deliberately unacceptable measures for verifying [proverka] observance of the agreement -- measures which were secretly approved a month ago by Carlucci, the President's new national security adviser. [paragraph continues]

The core of the proposals will be inspection [inspektirovaniye] of Soviet military plants and, as THE WASHINGTON POST put it, "unprecedented access to secret military bases." The U.S. press is earnestly whipping up the question of the alleged "insuperable complexity" of verifying [proverka] observance of a future agreement. Quite recently Richard Perle, a Weinberger aide and an unmitigated opponent of any accords with the USSR, stated: "Verification [proverka] is not even very difficult. It is simply impossible." Such a cynical formulation of the issue is clearly aimed at calling into question the very possibility of reaching any accord.

In this regard it is apposite to recall the United States has repeatedly used the verification [proverka] problem as an excuse to abandon agreements with the Soviet Union. Washington has rejected Soviet proposals on verification [kontrol], including those on on-site inspection [proverka na mestakh], and initiatives on the use of international inspection [inspektsiya] in the past too.

The Soviet Union is more, not less, interested than the United States in establishing reliable verification [kontrol] of the observance of agreements. The USSR has always fulfilled its international commitments. Soviet leaders have officially announced that verification [kontrol] of the observance of agreements is not a problem for the USSR. The Soviet side is prepared to embark on the most far-reaching verification [proverka] measures, including on-site inspection [inspektsiya] whenever necessary. However, verification [kontrol] is not an end in itself, much less should it be used as an obstacle to reaching agreement. Verification [kontrol] should promote the strengthening of the sides' confidence rather than the creation of undue suspicion.

While voicing satisfaction that the Soviet Union is now proposing to separate the problem of medium-range missiles from the rest of the issues at the talks, Washington officials have immediately demanded a new "NATO package" which, apart from medium-range missiles, would include the problems of shorter-range missiles, conventional arms and armed forces, chemical weapons, and so forth. Yet they are well aware that corresponding Soviet proposals on these very questions -- which, given good will on the part of the NATO leaders, could be resolved without harming the security of any country -- are on the negotiating table.

Any serious talks are an untiring quest for mutually acceptable solutions. Arms control talks are a quest for compromises which would reduce the level of military confrontation without violating the national security interests of the participating countries. The present debate in Washington on the Soviet proposals leads one to conclude that some people in the U.S. Administration are by no means concerned to find solutions at the talks but, on the contrary, are striving to erect artificial barriers which would make it impossible to implement the accord reached at Reykjavik on medium-range missiles.

The disagreements within the U.S. Administration are also being noted by the U.S. press. Thus, in an article entitled "Reagan's Last Chance" the prominent observer James Reston expresses the opinion that "it would be useful if Ronald Reagan settled the disputes in his cabinet on nuclear arms control. He has taken the first few steps in welcoming M.S. Gorbachev's proposal. A new approach needs to be made to Congress, which will have to ratify any agreement that is reached."

GENEVA TALKS END; VORONTSOV, OTHERS ON RESULTS

Agreement in '3-4 months'

LD082021 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] The seventh round of Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space weapons has ended in Geneva. Here is what the head of the Soviet delegation to the talks, Yuliy Mikhaylovich Vorontsov, told our correspondent:

[Begin recording] [Vorontsov] The most important thing that has taken place during this round is the important statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on medium-range missiles which opened up for the possibility of working with the U.S. delegation on the concrete text of an agreement on the eleimination of medium-range missiles in Europe and their significant reduction in Asia. Work of this kind has started. The U.S. delegation has agreed to the elaboration of an agreement of that kind. Of course, the work that lies ahead will be complicated, as this will be the first agreement of an international naturae, the first agreement between the USSR and the United States of America on actual destruction of nuclear and missile weapons, a destruction that will apply to the entire continent of Europe and a significant part of Asia. We consider the separate solution of the issue of medium-range missiles will provide a stimulus for a search, the speediest search for a solution to two other interrelated questions -- space and offensive strategic weapons.

[Correspondent] Of course, it is difficult to make forecasts, but when might that agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe be concluded? In a month, in 2, in 3, in a year's time?

[Vorontsov] No, in a year's time would be far too long, and there is no need for that, I repeat, an agreement in principle was reached in Reykjavik. We have all the main provisions of an agreement on intermediate missiles ready. What we have not got is a detailed breakdown -- what specific missiles, where does their elimination take place? It is these various, numerous questions to which we have to find answers with the U.S. delegation, and they have to be answers in the form of language of agreements. This is complicated, but it is possible, and it goes without saying, necessary. I think the working time here should be measured in months, presumably no more than 3-4 months. I can see no reason for working on this issue any longer than that. [end recording]

Vorontsov Sees 'Historic Chance'

LD061519 Moscow International Service in Russian 1530 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Geneva March 6 TASS -- The seventh round of the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space arms ended today. It is time to sum up certain results of the work done, to describe the specific features of the round. In an interview with a TASS correspondent, the head of the USSR delegation, first USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Yuliy Vorontsov said this:

"It should be noted that the most important event at the present stage of the talks on nuclear and space arms between the USSR and the U.S. was the statement of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev of February 28 in which the Soviet leader set out an initiative of an exceptional scope: The proposal to single out the question of the elimintion of Soviet and U.S. medium-range missiles in Europe from the range of problems discussed at the talks and to conclude a separate agreement on it without delay.

The Soviet side has taken a new major step in the spirit of Reykjavik. Those forces in the West which oppose the lowering of the level of nuclear confrontation in Europe will no longer have the ground to assert that the solution of the problem of medium-range missiles is hampered by its linkage to questions of space or strategic arms. The road to an arrangement which can become an important milestone in peoples' struggle for nuclear disarmament is open and it is necessary to do everything so as not to let an historic chance slip.

This initiative was met with huge satisfaction by the entire world public. Reponsible statesmen and public figures, parties and organizations in Western Europe and outside it declare support for it, justly viewing it as an evidence of the Soviet Union's sincere striving for the consolidation of security and the assertion of new approaches to the solution of ripe international problems, approaches free from old stereotypes and patterns.

"The step taken by the Soviet leadership is very timely. The matter is that stagnation at the Geneva talks started manifesting itself ever clearer by the end of the round. After the talks picked up somewhat in January, the U.S. side, as if getting frightened with prospects for advance, started applying the brake. This was manifested most patently in the U.S. stand on outer space. In that key area, the U.S. officially tabled a proposal aimed at trying to impose the so-called "broader interpretation" of the ABM Treaty and thus legalizing its efforts to spread the arms race also to space. That action was taken to suit the Pentagon which, contrary to the operating ABM Treaty of unlimited duration is pressing for the holding of large-scale tests of new means of anti-missile defense in space, jeopardizes achievement of an arrangement not only on space arms but also on strategic offensive arms. There exists a firm organic relationship between these matters.

"The Soviet proposal about undelayed development and conclusion of a treaty on the elimination of medium-range missiles of the USSR and the U.S. in Europe, the proposal put on the negotiating table, cuts the Gordian knot of problems not only in the sphere of "Euromissiles." It is also aimed at giving a positive impetus to work in other areas of the talks, namely on outer space and on strategic offensive armaments.

"The USSR consistently comes out for taking effective measures aimed at consolidating the regime of the ABM Treaty and, in these conditions, for agreement with the U.S. on radical reductions of strategic offensive armaments, up to their eventual elimination. In short, we are true to the Reykjavik platform. We have every reason to expect a positive response from the U.S. to our constructive proposals on these major aspects of the talks as well. The Reykjavik process should be advanced, and the positive processes that were started during the USSR - U.S. summit meeting in Iceland should not be hampered. It is necessary to work for effective agreements on the basis of understandings reached, agreements which would guarantee the non-deployment of weapons in space and would bring about the ridding of humanity of the threat of nuclear destruction. So, the regular round of talks on nuclear and space armaments came to a close but the work within the framework of the talks is going on. This is an unusual, but undoubtedly positive phenomenon which is closely connected with the new Soviet initiative in the sphere of medium-range missiles. It is necessary to take action in this sphere at once, without deliberate delays. It was decided by mutual agreement that the group studying the problems of medium-range missiles would remain for several more weeks in Geneva to study the problems of medium-range missiles and would start working out a joint draft text of the treaty.

"Much is being written in the press these days about the draft treaty presented by the U.S. at the very end of the round. At this moment I would not like to give a final opinion of its quality. However, the very fact of the presentation of the draft treaty is the direct result of the influence of the initiatives put forward by the Soviet side at the talks. The U.S. draft treaty which is a very complicated text overburdened with technical details on several dozens of pages will be closely analyzed. All that is in line with the letter and spirit of Reykjavik decisions will be received by us in a businesslike and positive manner. A lot of intensive work is lying ahead. The Soviet side is ready for it.

"I should like to state that we were coming out for the continuation of the work in two other areas as well, those of space and strategic offensive weapons. Key problems remain to be resolved in these spheres. However, the U.S. side did not support us and agreed only to a formal prolongation of the round by only two days. One can only hope the working break would be useful for the heads of the U.S. delegation who leave for Washington for consultations and that they would return to Geneva with contructive positions.

The exact date of the resumption of the talks has not been set so far. It will be coordinated by diplomatic channels. However, I can state that the very much approximate time of the beginning of the next round is the middle or the end of April."

Chernyshev: Lack of Reciprocity

LD091416 Moscow TASS International Service In Russian 1200 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 9 Mar (TASS) -- TASS observer on military affairs Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

All fruitful talks mean a two-way street. I think such a truth is known to everyone particularly as it has frequently been confirmed in practice. Is that how they behave in Washington? This is by no means an idle question, and it arises in connection with the response of the U.S. side to the new major initiative from the Soviet Union on the problem of medium-range missiles. Now our partners in the Geneva talks cannot impede matters, pleading that a solution to this problem is being hampered by its linkage with matters relating to strategic and other armaments. The problem has been separated from the Reykjavik package and there is a realistic possibility of a separate agreement being concluded without delay and Europe being freed from a significant share of the nuclear burden.

One would think that in Washington they would have appreciated the full extent of the USSR's constructiveness and not complicated the matter with certain additional conditions. However, something else is happening in fact. As K. Adelman, director of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, has just confirmed, in reply the United States is putting forward a demand that certain categories of reduced range missiles systems, in particular, SS-12 and SS-23, be included in a future agreement on medium-range missiles, having imposed alongside this a ceiling for Soviet systems and having secured the possibility for the United States, for its part, to reach this level, that is to say the possibility of building up the U.S. arsenal.

Consquently, while "welcoming" the separating of the question of medium range missiles from Reykjavik package the U.S. Administration is putting forward its own "package" which has nothing to do with Reykjavik.

Washington is "forgetting" about a whole series of extremely important points. First that the USSR has stated clearly: As soon as an agreement is signed on eliminating medium range missiles in Europe it will withdraw from the GDR and the CSSR the enhanced range operational and tactical missiles deployed there in response to the introduction into West Europe of the U.S. Pershing-2 and cruise missiles. Secondly, regarding other operational and tactical missiles, the USSR has expressed its readiness to immediately begin talks aimed at reducing and completely eliminating them. Is there, generally speaking, any positive sense in talking about fixing the possibility one side or the other has to increase these missiles? Evidently, for those who really intend to move toward reducing and completely eliminating both medium range missiles and operational and tactical missiles there is no point in doing this.

Trying to provide some "foundation" for the proposed "linkage" they talk about in Washington, their desire "for equal rights", for the USSR supposedly has superiority in missiles whose range is shorter than that of medium-range ones. That kind of "explanation", however, lacks elementary honesty. For it was the Soviet Union, guided by the recognition of its high level or responsibility to the world and by its sincere desire to ensure the possibility of a joint first step toward a nuclear-free Europe, which made major concessions: It agreed, in settling the question of medium range missiles, not to take into consideration the U.S. forward-based forces and the nuclear arsenals of Great Britain and France. These two above-mentioned countries alone, for example, now have 178 missiles with 530 warheads targetted at the USSR and its allies. Both countries are planning to build up their nuclear means. The U.S. experts who have drawn up the United States' reply to the Soviet initiative know this perfectly well but they ignore it.

Are there currently grounds for talking about Washington's desire to move along a road with two-way traffic, covering its own share of the way and taking into account the interests of the partner in the talks? Frankly speaking, in spite of the many statements by representatives of the U.S. Administration about the nearness of the first agreement at Geneva, so far there are no grounds for a positive conclusion. True, I would like to point out the fact that the draft agreement on medium range missiles which has been presented by the United States in Geneva and which links the solution of this problem with "certain categories" of systems of lesser range was prepared before the Soviet initiative. Washington still has an opportunity to look at it with due consideration for the new situation at the talks.

Obukhov on 'Important Step'

PA062230 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] As we have reported earlier, the latest round of arms talks between the Soviet Union and the United States has concluded with positive results. Aleksey Obukhov, deputy head of the Soviet delegation, has said that the USSR's determination to consider separately the medium-range missiles in Europe and strategic arms and ballistic missiles certainly constitute a step forward in these talks. These are Obukhov's remarks for this newscast:

[Begin Obukhov recording in English fading into Spanish translation] This Soviet initiative is a new and important step in the negotiations. The way has now been opened for a better agreement, the groundwork for which was laid at the Reykjavik summit meeting.

The signing of this agreement can become an historic step in the people's struggle for a world free from nuclear threat. Of course, this would be an important contribution to the European Continent's security, but it is also important for other parts of the world as well. Should the level of nuclear confrontation be reduced in Europe, where it is extremely high at present, the positive results of this achievement would be felt everywhere. This would be a great step forward toward nuclear disarmament and the establishment of truly civilized relations between the states.

The new Soviet initiative proposed by Mikhail Gorbachev opens the door, not only for an agreement on medium-range missiles in Europe, but for positive results in the Geneva talks in a general sense. This is why we can expect reciprocal U.S. moves in other areas. [end recording]

In addition, the arms talks were marked by the U.S. insistence on continuing its large-scale ABM tests in space. Obukhov said the following regarding this:

[Begin Obukhov recording] During the talks, the U.S. representative presented a proposal dealing with the use of these arms in space. This proposal is equivalent, not to the strengthening of the ABM Treaty, but to its destruction, because this proposal can be equated to a broad interpretation of the treaty. With this interpretation, the United States attempts to continue testing new ABM's in space during the next 10 years. [end recording]

The talks are expected to be resumed next week.

GSFG'S BELIKOV ON SOVIET ARMY DAY, SOCIALIST TIES

AU061318 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 23 Feb 87 p 6

[Article by Army General Valeriy Belikov, commander in chief of the Group of Soviet Armed Forces in Germany: "On the 69th Anniversary of the Soviet Army: We Do All We Can to Defend and Strengthen Peace"]

[Excerpts] Today, on 23 February, the Soviet people and the USSR soldiers commemorate the 69th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Army and Navy. [passage omitted]

Our people have embarked on restructuring of a truly revolutionary character, through which the potential of socialism is to be fully brought to bear.

A decisive factor in ensuring the success of this task consists of safeguarding the required high defense capability of the Soviet country.

We are assessing external conditions, the complex international situation, in a sober-minded manner and are guided by the lessons of history and by the Leninist legacy that tells us to be always on the alert. As long as there is a continued danger of imperialism starting an aggression, military conflicts, and various provocations, strong armed forces which are in a position to reliably protect the security of our country and that of the entire socialist camp constitute a vital necessity for us.

[Passage omitted] For more than 4 decades mankind has been enjoying the fruit of the great victory. These years have been marked by the strengthening and increasing influence of world socialism, something that provokes fierce resistance on the part of the most aggressive imperialist forces.

The international situation is still tense through the fault of the most aggressive circles of imperialist states. Ruling U.S. quarters are primarily responsible for this. Together with their NATO allies, they want to abolish the existing military balance of power and achieve strategic superiority over the USSR and the other socialist countries. They are fanning the arms race and in a pig-headed manner they also are striving to extend it into outer space. The U.S. Administration demonstratively disregarded the Soviet Union's appeal to join the moratorium it had declared on nuclear explosions and, in spite of the will of the world public, it continues its testing with the aim of developing new weapons. Imperialism is pushing mankind into the abyss of a nuclear inferno.

Our country does all it can to defend peace and strengthen it and to curb the forces of aggression and militarism. The USSR's great number of peace initiatives and practial steps are well known. They comprise a far-reaching complex of measures of a political and military nature. The proposal for drastic reductions in conventional armaments and armed forces in Europe submitted by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the 11th SED Party Congress in April 1986 occupies an important place in this complex. The United States and its NATO partners assign a special role to the central European theater of operations in their aggressive plans. NATO's most important strike grouping is concentrated there. Aside from the attempt to place the blame for the tense nature of the military-political situation in Europe on the Warsaw Pact states, NATO's leadership is spreading another false contention: Realization of the Soviet proposals could entail the danger of a shift in the military equilibrium in favor of the USSR.

Solid Friendship With the GDR People [subhead]

Proceeding from the military situation, it is essential to be on the alert and to be always ready and able to repulse a surprise strike. This requirement is extraordinarily important for the group of Soviet Armed Forces in Germany [GSFG]. In a uniform combat formation with our brothers in class and arms, the soldiers of the National People's Army [NVA] of the GDR, and those of the other armies of the Warsaw Pact member-states, we must be ready at any time to line up for the defense of our peoples and of the entire socialist community of states.

It is not easy to maintain such a state of readiness. The only people who are up to this task are those who stand with unreserved loyalty for their homeland, for the Communist Party, and for the cause of internationalism, those who are ideologically firm, courageous and fearless. Such people are serving with the GSFG in Germany. Most GSFG members are Communists and Komsomol members. Well-trained officers work in the staffs and among the troops. As a rule they have graduated from a military college or technical school. Many of them are first-class experts and are able to successfully train and educate their subordinates.

Critical analysis, creativity, an innovative spirit, activity, and initiative -- these are the factors that shape the activities of the officers and the party and komsomol branches of the GSFG. GSFG members act according to the slogan: "We shall implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and worthily prepare the 70th anniversary of the Great October Socialist revolution by means of selfless military service."

[Passage omitted] The inviolable friendship with the GDR working people and the comradeship in arms with the NVA occupy a particularly important place in the life of the GSFG's members. Unity, fraternal affinity, and mutual assistance have become absolute characteristics of our relations. There is no troop formation in the GSFG which does not maintain close friendly relations with NVA units and GDR labor collectives.

Shoulder to Shoulder With the Fraternal Armies. [subhead]

Joint exercises, joint training, and a comprehensive exchange of the best experiences have become the norm in life for our fraternal armies.

It is possible to see members of the GSFG and NVA of the GDR together on troop training grounds, at joint political and cultural events, and also during leisure time. They are united by the ideology of Marxism-Leninism.

Whoever fulfills his service in the GSFG today is proud of the glorious deeds of the Soviet Armed Forces, of their heroic past. The soldiers are striving to prove themselves to be loyal heirs of the glory of the older generations, of those who won victory against white guardists and interventionists, over fascists and militarists. Through their military service for peace, through exemplarily discharging their duty as soldiers in the present times, they want to augment and further develop the combat traditions.

The Soviet people and the peoples of the socialist fraternal countries may be certain: Their peaceful, creative work and the sovereignty and territorial integrity of their states are being reliably protected. Shoulder to shoulder with the fraternal armies of the Warsaw Pact countries, the Soviet Army is ready to defend peace and socialism at any time.

CEMA VISITORS, BULGARIA'S DOYNOV AT KIEV PLANT

AU051914 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 1 Mar 87 p 3

[RATAU report: "Deepening Scientific-Technological Cooperation"]

[Excerpts] On 27 February, the Ukraine's capital city was visited by leaders who, in the CEMA member-countries, are responsible for the organization of works in the priority sector of "New materials and the technologies of their production and processing."

The guests visited the "Ye. O. Paton Electrowelding Institute" inter-branch scientific-technological complex of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. In a conversation, B. Ye. Paton, president of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and director of the Electrowelding Institute, briefed the visitors on the activity of the inter-branch scientific-technological complex in developing new technologies, equipment, and materials. [passage omitted]

The foreign visitors familiarized themselves with the activity of the "Powder Metallurgy" inter-branch scientific-technological complex of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences. V.I. Trefilov, member of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and director general of the complex, gave an account of the structure of the complex, the tasks confronting it, and spoke about cooperation with partners within the CEMA framework. O. Doynov, Bulgarian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo member and Council of Ministers deputy chairman of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, told a RATAU correspondent: It was very interesting and useful, both for ourselves and for specialists from other socialist countries, to visit the modern scientific centers of Kiev, centers which are leading in the organization of works in the priority sectors of developing new materials and technologies for their production. Bulgarian scientists and specialists have established direct contacts with Kiev institutes, and have created joint laboratories to hasten scientific elaborations.

MEDVEDEV ADDRESSES MASS MEDIA SEMINAR ON COVERAGE

LD041653 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1330 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] On 3-4 March, a seminar-conference took place at the CPSU Central Committee with workers in the central newspapers and magazines, TASS, APN, and USSR State Broadcasting Network on questions of covering problems in the socialist countries in the Soviet mass media.

Comrade Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, gave a report on the topical questions of developing the USSR's cooperation with the socialist countries and the tasks of the mass media. In the report and in other addresses the need was noted for a comprehensive and objective familiarization of the Soviet public with the advanced experience and current problems being dealt with at the moment in the fraternal countries and of broad-based information for their population on the processes of restructuring, the acceleration of social and economic development, and the democratization, which are characteristic of life in Soviet society today.

The tasks for Soviet journalists covering problems in socialist countries were discussed in a businesslike and concerned atmosphere. Taking part in the seminar-conference were Soviet correspondents in the socialist countries, the heads of a number of state and public organizations, and CPSU executives.

BLOC PARLIAMENTARY GROUP LEADERS IN PYONGYANG

PM091235 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Parliamentarians' Meeting"]

[Text] Pyongyang, 7 Mar -- A consultative meeting of the leaders of the socialist countries' parliamentary groups was held here 6-7 March. Taking part were delegations from the parliamentary groups of Bulgaria, Hungary, the SRV, the GDR, the DPRK, Cuba, Mongolia, Poland, Romania, the CSSR, and the USSR.

The Soviet delegation was headed by A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet's Soviet of Nationalities and deputy chairman of the USSR Parliamentary Group.

The meeting focused its attention on questions of the conservation of peace, disarmament, the prevention of nuclear war, and the easing of international tension. In this regard, special emphasis was placed on the importance of the new Soviet proposals on medium-range missiles as one more major step in the direction of the implementation of the program for a nuclear free-world.

At the meeting there was an exchange of opinions on the results of the 75th and 76th conferences of the Interparliamentary Union and discussion of questions connected with preparation for the next conference.

Great attention was paid to questions of strengthening security in various parts of the world, especially the Asian and Pacific region, and including the creation of a nuclear-free peace zone on the Korean peninsula. The DPRK Government's peace initiatives aimed at safeguarding peace and forming favorable conditions for the country's unification were highly assessed and full support was expressed for them.

The participants in the meeting were unanimous on all questions discussed.

GERASIMOV HOLDS WEEKLY NEWS CONFERENCE

Positive Response to Proposals

LD051550 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1510 GMT 5 Feb 87

["A Representative of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs on the New Soviet Proposals" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 5 Mar (TASS) -- The statement made by Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee General Secretary, on 28 February has aroused a positive response everywhere in the world, Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry, said at a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists in the press center of the USSR Foreign Ministry today. As it is a bold step and a concession to the West, the West simply cannot criticize it without criticizing itself. For the same reason, this step cannot be dismissed as propaganda, Gennadiy Gerasimov pointed out, and many people consider the West has fallen into its own trap.

Recalling that U.S. President Ronald Reagan had welcomed Mikhail Gorbachev's statement as a step in keeping with the understanding reached at the meeting in Reykjavik, the representative of the USSR Foreign Ministry reported that the U.S. delegation at the Geneva talks had put forward its own draft of a treaty on medium range missiles which in a number of basic parameters was in keeping with the Reykjavik understandings. The Soviet proposals are based on these understandings. The Soviet delegation, G. Gerasimov said, has begun studying this document. Discussions are presently under way in Geneva on the problem of medium range missiles. Three groups are at work at the negotiations on nuclear and space weapons: Two groups finish their work tomorrow and the group on questions of medium range missiles will continue the current round until 19 March. If the U.S. side displays readiness for constructive negotiations, it can be considered that the work in Geneva will make rapid progress.

At the same time, some commentators voice doubts: Will the monitoring [kontrol] difficulties be overcome; is there not a wedge being driven into the U.S.-Western European solidarity; will the balance of forces in Europe not be disturbed? It is also said that a long road is ahead and it will take many, many months to cover. Caspar Weinberger, the head of the U.S. military department, while joining in the positive apraisal of the proposals, insists on the importance of a careful analysis of these proposals, above all from the point of view of verification [proverka].

The USSR's proposals on the medium range missiles have given rise to special interest in Western European countries and here it is also possible to state that responses there are positive. Both in the FRG, and in Italy, and in Britain and in a number of other Western European countries. [sentence as received] Even though attempts have been made here and there to detract from the importance of the Soviet proposals and to portray them in the guise of an attempt to split the West European ranks and to put the United States at loggerheads with Western Europe.

All in all, in our view a good start has been made, concluded the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman.

Gorbachev Proposals, SDI

LD051840 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] A briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists devoted to current international problems was held at the press center of the USSR Foreign Ministry in Moscow today. It was conducted by Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate of the USSR Foreign Ministry. Replying to a question from an ABC Television correspondent on reactions in Europe to the new proposal by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev about reducing medium-range missiles, he said, in part:

[Begin Gerasimov recording] If you go by what they were saying to us previously in proposing a zero option, then Western Europe should now be dancing in the streets, because this option has been accepted. Now that what they wanted is entering the realm of attainability we can hear objections that if the missiles are removed from Europe, Moscow will be the winner because, so the theory goes, the Warsaw Pact has an advantage in conventional weapons. Evidently, an extreme expression of this point of view was the statement by General Rogers that it wold be madness, it would be mad [previous word in English] to agree to a zero option.

As you will remember, just a few days ago Marshal Akhromeyev stressed once again at a news conference here that there is no superiority on the part of the armed forces of the Warsaw Pact over the NATO countries in Europe. Nevertheless, I am certain this argument that Europe will end up unarmed will unquestionably be used. So this argument still lies ahead. [end recording]

[Announcer] A question from a CBS correspondent: There was an article in the journal of the United States and Canada Institute, USA ECONOMY, POLITICS, IDEOLOGY, on possible countermeasures to SDI. Does this mean the USSR has officially announced to the United States that it is adopting countermeasures in this area?

[Begin Gerasimov recording] We have long been saying, and research was done by Soviet scientists which prove this, that the Strategic Defense Initiative will not meet one of the criteria of Paul Nitze, who is a supporter of it and who said -- and I think this could almost be considered the official position of the U.S. Administration -- that it is not worth creating [sozdavat] an antimissile defense system if the gap can easily be filled by additional, and less, capital investment in systems of attack. That was a cost-effective analysis. Our scientists showed that the expenditure on additional missiles or additional surmounting systems. [sredstva preodoleniya] of various kinds would not exceed something like 5 percent of the expenditure on the creation of an antimissile defense system itself. That, I think, is a very good argument showing the fantastical nature, the airy-fairy nature of this whole scheme of antimissile defense.

For it to be effective, it has to be 100 percent because one single missile is sufficient to destroy a whole target. Not only is it technically impossible; it is also economically impossible, because if, for example, America today creates a 100 percent-effective antimissile defense system against the existing Soviet nuclear arsenal, our scientists in this argument show that it would be enough to spend additional money on penetration systems -- considerably less than that spent by the Americans -- to reduce this whole scheme once again to nothing. [end recording]

[Announcer] Replies were also given to other journalists' questions.

UK Extradition Evasion

AU051652 Paris AFP in English 1651 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, March 4 (AFP) -- The Soviet Union Thursday accused Britain of "trying to evade" repeated Soviet demands for the extradition of Nazis who committed crimes in the Ukraine during World War II.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov said he had a list of names of alleged Nazi war criminals whom Britain had so far refused to extradite, despite "repeat requests" from Moscow. He said that the Ukraine state prosecutor might now decide to approach the British authorities, after the latest refusal from London.

British Home Secretary Douglas Hurd on Monday said the government would not open criminal proceedings against the alleged Nazi criminals in Britain, who number 17 according to Vienna-based Nazi-hunter Simon Wiesenthal.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman said Britain was "trying to evade" the Soviet request by claiming the absence of extradition agreements between London and Moscow. Mr. Gerasimov had with him the names of three of the alleged war criminals, one of whom, now living in London, "took part in shooting Soviet people." He said he could provide a complete list later.

He said he did not know if the issue would be raised during British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's visit to Moscow at the end of this month.

UK Harboring Nazis

LD051840 Moscow TASS in English 1814 GMT 5 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 5 TASS -- There is information that as many as 34 Nazi war criminials, who perpetrated crimes in Soviet territory during the Second World War, are now in Britain, Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the Information Directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, said at a briefing for Soviet and foreign journalists today. The USSR, according to him, has made more than one request to the British authorities to extradite the criminals, who perpetrated atrocities in the Ukraine. The latest such request was handed to the British side by the Soviet Embassy in London last August. The British Foreign Office, however, is trying actually to avoid meeting the Soviet request, citing as a pretext statutory limitations and the absence of proper legal accords between the USSR and Britain.

The USSR has information about those criminals, the Soviet spokesman said. For instance, Kirill Stepanovich Zvarich, b. 1910, lives in Britain at the address: Brombeach Street, Bolton, Lancashire. In 1941, he began serving as a policeman for the Nazi invaders and participated in the shooting executions of many Soviet citizens, which has been corroborated by witness accounts.

TRADE OFFICIAL ON JOINT VENTURES WITH WEST

PM081807 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 28 Feb 87 p 3

[Interview with Yu. Kislenko chief of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade Engineering and Technical Main Administration, by L. Telen: "Is It Easy To Find a Partner?" -- no place or date of interview given]

[Text] Sector ministries and the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade are conducting talks with foreign firms on the establishment of joint enterprises. The editorial office's questions about the initial steps in this work are answered today by Yu. Kislenko, chief of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade Engineering and Technical Main Administration.

[Kislenko] We have already received about 150 proposals from representatives of firms in the United States, Finland, Japan, Italy, and the FRG... Business circles in these countries are perhaps the most active. Incidentally, the majority of "competitor" companies have been fruitfully cooperating with the Soviet Union for a long time, and this is precisely why they are eager to establish closer contacts. We are conducting intensive talks with 20 firms, and the initial documents -- protocols of intention -- have already been signed.

[Telen] 150 proposals... Is one to assume that not all of them are equally acceptable?

[Kislenko] Quite right. Preference could be given to, say, a firm producing unique machine tools or, possibly, to an enterprise making vacuum bottles. In our view, priority should be given to those who offer to set up the production of output fundamentally new for us, primarily in the sectors which determine scientific and technical progress -- machine building, power industry, and the chemical and oil industries.

[Telen] Yuriy Antonovich, our readers are especially interested in the response of U.S. business circles to the USSR's proposals.

[Kislenko] We have been cooperating for a long time with certain U.S. industrialists. You only have to recall the contacts with Caterpillar, ARMCO, Dresser Industries, Pepsi-Cola, Coca-Cola, and the Hammer companies. Hence the keen interest by Americans in setting up joint enterprises was not expected by us. Today we are talking with firms producing sewing equipment and various mineral fertilizers. There are practical proposals in the oil extraction sphere -- the Americans have been successful in assimilating highly efficient methods for extracting oil from almost inaccessible strata.

One well-known company has proposed -- and we have accepted the proposal -- to set up an enterprise for the production of aromatic and flavor-enhancing food additives. Let me cite just one example to enable the readers to judge the project on its merits. Using additives, our industry produces from certain varieties of fish so-called "crab sticks" which, in addition to real crab, have become popular in many countries in the world, but the additives are supplied from abroad. By setting up our own production we will be able not only to please our compatriots by supplying them with a good product but also to save a considerable amount of foreign currency.

[Telen] Are there any U.S. firms with which the talks are approaching a successful conclusion?

[Kislenko] Of course. Protocols of intention have already been signed by seven companies.

[Telen] It looks like the Americans are not offering us cooperation in the sectors which require priority from the viewpoint of scientific and technical progress....

[Kislenko] The Reagan administration has entangled foreign economic activity in numerous prohibitions. The various embargos have virtually reduced to zero the prospects for establishing businesslike contact in the production of electronics, computers, or control systems, including those for machine tools.... All this, of course, narrows the field for our cooperation. Meanwhile, this shortsighted policy by the administration is primarily hurting the interests of industrial America itself.

Nonetheless, we have not given up hope that the setting up of joint Soviet-U.S. enterprises, even if only within the framework of the Reagan restrictions, will be mutually advantageous.

[Telen] Have specific models of future Soviet-U.S. firms been already elaborated?

[Kislenko] Not yet. It must be borne in mind that we still lack experience in setting up such enterprises. The firms which existed in the USSR during the twenties were just concessions, in other words they were essentially the private property of Western entrepreneurs in our territory. The joint enterprises operating today in China and some other socialist countries do not at all meet our objectives and tasks. I think it is difficult to finally elaborate models for such enterprises at present. Details will be worked out and finalized by practice itself. This must be approached calmly. Even though some attempts are being made to create such models. For example, the U.S.-USSR Trade and Economic Council held two seminars on this subject, inviting leading U.S. lawyers and businessmen to them. The result was success in outlining several provisional options for future joint enterprises, and this work continues. Only time will tell whether they would pass the test of time.

2-DAY UNESCO DISCUSSIONS END IN MOSCOW

LD041606 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1507 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 4 Mar (TASS) -- Two-day consultations ended in Moscow today between the senior (general) secretaries of the national commissions of the Belorussian SSR, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the GDR, the PPR, the Socialist Republic of Romania, the USSR, the Ukrainian SSR, and the Czechoslovak SR on UNESCO's affairs. During exchanges of opinions the most topical questions of this organization's activity in the spheres of its remit were discussed -- education, science and culture -- from the viewpoint of strengthening UNESCO's contribution to establishing humanitarian and intellectual cooperation throughout the world and Europe.

U.S. DENIES VISAS TO TRADE UNION DELEGATION

LD091338 Moscow TASS in English 1259 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 9 TASS -- The U.S. Embassy in Moscow denied entry visas to the United States to members of a Soviet trade union delegation which was to attend a conference in Washington on issues of labour and health protection and social service, the delegation told Soviet newsmen at a news conference in Moscow today.

This is far from being the first case of such actions by the State Department, speakers at the news conference stressed. Galina Sukhoruchenkova, secretary of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions who heads the delegation, and other members of the delegation voiced sincere regret that one more concrete step of such cooperation could not be realized through the fault of those who keep clinging to the dogmas of anti-Sovietism to the detriment of the considerations of reason and humaneness and contrary to the vital interests of the working people.

'Bewilderment, Indignation'

LD091729 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1250 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 9 Feb (TASS) -- Bewilderment and indignation -- that was the reaction of members of a Soviet trade union delegation to the U.S. State Department's refusal to give them entry visas into the country. The Soviet specialists were invited by the U.S. International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers to take part in a trade union conference on labor protection which opens today in Washington.

"This is a discriminatory act in relation not only to the Soviet but also U.S. trade unions, to whom the State Department, not for the first time, has been dictating who can and who cannot be invited to the United States, Galina Sukhoruchenkova, secretary of the USSR's All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions [AUCCTU], told journalists. She should have headed the delegation which included, in particular, Academician Nikolay Inmerov, director of the Labor Hygiene and Occupational Diseases Institute, Eduard Kolodin, director of the AUCCTU Labor Protection Institute, and Viktor Ivanov, professor at the Moscow Engineering Physics Institute and a specialist on radiation safety.

"At the conference our experts intended to share with colleagues their expertise on radiation and chemical protection at enterprises, dealing with noise, vibrations and other unfavorable factors at workplaces, Sukhoruchenkova said. It was intended to show U.S. colleagues a photographic exhibition about labor protection in the USSR and a film about the tragic events at the Chernobyl nuclear power station, and to exchange working expertise on lowering the level of industrial injuries and professional illnesses. At the request of the U.S. association, people who had participated directly in eliminating the aftermath of the accident in Chernobyl were included in the delegation. However, the U.S. authorities sacrificed a noble cause for their political ambitions," the AUCCTU secretary said.

It was noted at the news conference that this is by no means the first instance of unfriendly actions by the State Department, which when refusing visas to representatives of the Soviet working people, generally refers to the provisions of the immigration law made at the height of the "Cold War," and also to the AFL-CIO leadership's negative attitude toward Soviet-U.S. trade union exchanges.

The members of the delegation sent a telegram to the trade union conference in Washington, expressing regret that "yet another specific chance of Soviet-U.S. cooperation has been forfeited through the fault of those who continue to cling to the dogmas of anti-Sovietism, to the detriment of considerations of sense and humaneness and in the face of the vital interests of working people."

TASS ON LINNAS EXTRADITION REFUSAL

LD061950 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1847 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Moscow, 6 Mar (TASS) -- It has been made known here that the United States has come out in the role of protector of Nazis who committed the gravest crimes on the territory of the USSR. Contrary to the previously adopted decision to extradite to the Soviet Union Karl Linnas, the former head of a concentration camp near the Estonian town of Tartu, who has on his conscience 12,000 human victims, U.S. Justice Minister [as received] Edwin Meese has annulled the deportation to the USSR of Linnas, who has been granted permission to seek a country to depart to.

In the years of the Hitlerite occupation of Estonia, Linnas was head of the concentration camp in Tartu and took a personal part in executions of Soviet people, including old people, women and children. For this he was sentenced to death in absentia by a Soviet court in 1982. [passage omitted]

Many people in Estonia and the other Soviet republics are expressing indignation at the decision of the U.S. justice authorities.

Possible 'Propaganda' Coup

LD062331 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2055 GMT 6 Mar 87

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valeriy Korzin]

[Text] More than once facts have emerged to show that Washington is concealing Nazi criminals. According to Alan Ryan, former director of the U.S. Justice Department special investigations department, about 10,000 Nazis found refuge in the United States after the rout of Hitlerite fascism. Among these was Karl Linnas, who was head of a concentration camp in Tartu, and who took a personal part in executing Soviet people.

He was sentenced to death by a Soviet court for his crimes as far back as 1962. And now, 22 years later -- only after 22 years -- the question of extraditing the Nazi criminal from the country was brought up in the United States. Well, justice seemed to have triumphed. However, such was not the case. He turned out to have highly placed champions, and evidently under pressure from them Edwin Meese, U.S. minister of justice [as heard] decided temporarily to postpone deporting Linnas to the Soviet Union.

This decision of course gave rise to jubilation among all sorts of rabble who had dug themselves in over the ocean. A certain (Anthony Mozeyko) said at a meeting with Meese that handing over Linnas to the Soviet Union would be what he described as a big propaganda victory for the Soviets.

If one can believe the CBS report, these absurd allegations influenced the guardian of U.S. legality.

It is actually not surprising. Given the mass anti-Soviet hysteria which is now being whipped up in the United States, it is probably better to pass for a protection of Nazis than a supporter of the Soviet Union.

ARBATOV VIEWS POST-REAGAN POLICY PROSPECTS

PM091552 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Mar 87 First Edition p 7

[Academician G. Arbatov article: "A Matter of Life and Death"]

[Text] The nuclear era has placed on the world political agenda the most important question in the history of mankind -- the question of survival. Overshadowing many urgent tasks, it demands serious consideration of the fundamental long-term problems of political strategy.

The Soviet Union has done much in this area recently. The objective situation demands a reevaluation of values by the United States too. America needs a serious, honest debate on questions of military policy and disarmament. It is not only America that needs such a debate, but its need is, perhaps, especially great.

The present U.S. course has led the military-political situation, including the disarmament problem, into a complete impasse. The arms race is intensifying. Talks have not only been hopelessly dragged out, but because of the U.S. rejection of the SALT agreement and machinations over the ABM Treaty, they have been left hanging by a thread. Washington's position on military-strategic questions is more unproductive, contradictory, and confused than ever before. Most dangerously, it is damaging stability and increasing the threat of war.

The candidates who will be struggling for the presidency in 1988 will hardly be able to shrug aside these problems. According to the political calendar, the various factions of the U.S. political elite should be on the point of publicly indicating at least the main points of the debate and outlining its framework.

A lengthy article by three prominent military experts in THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE of 25 January can be regarded as the "first shot" in preparation for this debate. One of the authors is B. Scowcroft, former national security adviser to the U.S. President (under the Republican Ford) and now appointed chairman or member of various presidential commissions (including the commission that investigated the "Irangate" scandal). The other two held prominent posts in President Carter's Democratic administration: J. Deutch was assistant energy secretary (in the United States this ministry is also responsible for the production of nuclear munitions), and J. Woolsey was under secretary of the Navy. It is not only a question of who the authors are. The article is also ambitious in its intention, setting forth a bipartite platform for U.S. military policy which, the authors write, should unite the entire "political center."

That is where I would like to start. The "political center" is the center because some people are positioned to the right of it and some to the left. Nobody has so far had any doubt as to where President Reagan and his military-political retinue (Weinberger, Perle, and others) stand on military matters -- on the right, if not the extreme right, flank.

Now we come to the first surprise. The authors, ardently claiming adherence to centrist, moderate positions, attack the Reagan administration from an unexpected direction. They criticize it -- and, moreover, savagely and bitingly -- for its "antinuclear illusions," for giving "short measure" on defense, practically for pacifism.

The President is blamed for Reykjavik (the article is headed "The Way Out of Reykjavik"). Not because an historic opportunity to reach agreement was lost there, but because Reagan "all but" signed such an accord. Realizing how hard it is to believe in Reagan the pacifist, the authors offer their own version of his fall from grace. It began, apparently, with the attempt to "steal the clothes of the antinuclear movement" which was made at a time when the antiwar movement was developing in the United States (1983). The authors see nothing reprehensible in this. The trouble was that the administration, in its zeal, went too far and, I quote, "in trying to steal all the clothes of the antinuclear movement, was to become equally antinuclear itself." Here "the administration began to borrow the antinuclear movement's ideas that the main obstacle to peace throughout the world is not the existence of an ambitious totalitarian state, but the existence of nuclear weapons." Nuclear weapons, the authors write with horror, began to be spoken of "as a kind of lethal virus, the common enemy of man." Thus the "image" of Reagan the pacifist is supplemented by the image of Reagan the appeaser of communists.

I never thought I would ever find myself defending President Reagan against attacks -- as unfounded as they are dishonest. Because nonexistent sins are attributed to the President, and because a false version of Reykjavik is presented.

It causes me some pain to say there is much in the article that is dishonest: I have known one of the authors, General Scowcroft, for many years as a man of conservative convictions, but distinguished by his personal honesty. Here either the devil or his smart coauthors have led him astray.

In principle, of course, I will not be hypocritical about it, I am not particularly worried what these three Americans think and say about their President. The question arises: Why were the proposals for a military-political platform for the post-Reagan period prefaced with various fables? The answer is supplied by the program proposed by the authors. Its essence is the continuation of the arms race "in all salients." Or more specifically, in the strategic sphere -- the construction of MX, Trident-2, and Midgetman missiles; in medium-range missiles in Europe -- the abandonment of the zero option which was virtually agreed on in Reykjavik (some of these missiles, the authors say, must remain).

After M.S. Gorbachev's 28 February Statement, that last question takes on practical significance. How do the authors justify the departure from Reykjavik? By the fact that supposedly "the zero option will leave Western Europe 'naked' in the face of approximately 600 shorter-range Soviet missiles...." Again, untrue. The authors keep quiet about the existence of the U.S. forward-based forces. Moreover, in the "naked" Western Europe three are also the nuclear weapons of the NATO allies. In terms of medium-range missiles alone, Britain and France have around 200, many of which carry several warheads each. Both countries plan to increase their nuclear means. The U.S. experts are well aware of that. They ignore it. Is that an honest approach?

Let us go back to the proposed "moderate center" program. Another point is the buildup of chemical arms and, of course, intensive efforts in the conventional arms sphere. It all culminates in a "more realistic" version of SDI, also including defense against tactical weapons and cruise missiles.

As for arms control, this, the authors graciously declared, is permissible, but must necessarily be "modest" and only "step by step." A familiar tune! These "step by step" talks went on for many years. Meanwhile, to use M.S. Gorbachev's expression, mountains of "trash smelling of mothballs" grew up, agreements were approached at tortoise pace, and the arms race sped on by giant strides.

Dissatisfaction with the profanation of the idea of arms control grew. The fundamental significance of Reykjavik was precisely that it opened up an alternative -- the possibility of bold steps really leading to the resolution of the problem. This clearly frightened the three U.S. experts.

So for the the post-Reagan period, under the label of a "centrist," "moderate" program, the same old program of the arms race is proposed as under the Reagan administration. You cannot help coming to the conclusion that the intention of the article's authors is to "overturn" in order to strengthen, to criticize in order to deflect the threat from the present U.S. military policy and maintain both the level of military preparations and the military programs. The authors are clearly worried that the fall in Reagan's popularity, he has become the symbol of militarist policy, will lead to that policy being discredited. Surely that is why they are now trying to send the public along a false trail by "exposing" Reagan as an antinuclear "pacifist." And, fearing an undesirable turn of events, in good time, before the election campaign gathers speed, they are insinuating a pseudoplatform designed to divert the debate and prevent true discussion of the true problems.

Only one thing can lie behind these tricks -- fear of the changes which are taking place in the world and which could influence the political situation in the United States itself.

The first such change is that in recent years it has become clear both to the public and to statesmen who are in their right mind that you cannot win a nuclear war and must not wage one. The new ideas about nuclear war -- like it or not -- demand certain conclusions about strategy and military doctrines, military programs and weapons systems. The old, "traditional" military and political thinking loses its foundations and is robbed of its customary anchors. Like, for instance, the almost religious faith in nuclear "deterrence" as the only, eternal instrument of ensuring security.

The erosion of these foundations cannot be prevented by the most refined sophistry, of which the authors of the article provide examples. Most likely, as time goes on the irrationality not only of nuclear war, but of everything connected with it will become increasingly obvious. Nuclear weapons -- here their apologists are right -- cannot be "disinvented." Now it is equally impossible to restore faith in those weapons as a rational instrument of policy.

The task is not to learn to live with the nuclear bomb, but for people to learn to live without nuclear weapons, even though they have been invented. Just as they live without cannibalism, slavery, and colonialism, although these institutions were once invented and had a long history.

The second change which makes it difficult to continue the Reaganite policy after Reagan is connected with the fact that the myth of the "Soviet threat" -- the main argument in favor of military preparations and the arms race -- has become very threadbare. It becomes especially difficult to revive it against the background of the changes taking place in our country. [paragraph continues]

This factor will also have a growing influence on sentiments in Western countries, including the United States. The authors are seriously disturbed by this prospect. So they not only sprinkled the article lavishly with references to the "Soviet threat," but also tried to minimize and belittle the significance of the changes in the Soviet Union. They say: Nothing major is happening there -- and promptly give themselves away by concluding their reasoning with this sentence: "We must be careful."

That means they themselves do not believe they will be able to convince the reader by means of these grins and smirks about the changes taking place in the USSR and the new Soviet policy initiatives. Of what is the reader supposed to be afraid? That the reforms in the Soviet Union could supposedly be accompanied by an "aggressive foreign policy." This unlikely assertion is followed by something quite unseemly -- the argument that there could be forces in the USSR which will reject the present course and reverse policy. What will the "disarmed" Americans do then?

Here the authors give themselves away -- more than the "Soviet threat," they fear the loss of this threat or the myth of its existence. Among many other differences, there is a fundamental political asymmetry between the USSR and the United States. We in the Soviet Union would like to see America as a partner, for all the differences and despite all the things we do not like about it. We certainly do not need the United States as an ememy. But the United States, those who make policy there, need the USSR, on the contrary, as an enemy. Without an "enemy," without an "evil force," militarism would not have survived and the present U.S. foreign policy would be bankrupt. Of course, the political platform proposed by the authors of the article would be left hanging in the air.

The third change is that the public, like, incidentally, many politicians in various countries, is beginning to have a more realistic understanding of its own interests and priorities. Nuclear catastrophe, nuclear weapons, to the U.S. experts' dismay, are regarded by them as a far greater danger than the "Soviet threat." Debts and other international economic problems, environmental pollution, and the exacerbation of regional conflicts are regarded as more urgent. And, very importantly, difficulties at home attract more attention. Americans, in particular, are beginning to be increasingly worried about the budget deficit, the state debt, and the undermining of U.S. positions in competition on the world market. They are asking themselves: Can America go on spending as much on military needs as in the last 6 years, does it, or the other states which lend the United States money to cover the deficit, physically have enough resources?

The authors can see this concern. They also try to ultilize it very unscrupulously -- as an apologia for nuclear arms. Nuclear weapons, they claim, remain preferable, because they are cheaper. At first glance, that is true. In the United States 20 percent of military appropriations go on nuclear weapons, the rest on conventional arms. As an argument in favor of nuclear weapons, these figures do not stand up to criticism.

One wonders: Why, having accumulated a vast quantity of nuclear weapons in excess of any conceivable need, does the United States consider itself obliged to spend four times more resources on conventional arms, in addition? Why, in the nuclear age, has military spending not fallen, but reached a fantastic scale? It has been calculated that in the last 40 years this spending in the United States alone (at unchanged 1982 prices) totaled the staggering sum of $7 trillion 620 billion!

In fact the appearance of nuclear weapons led to the unprecedented militarization of the economy, politics, and international relations, spurred on the race for all types of arms, and therefore led to an unprecedented growth in military spending. The whole world, including the United States, faces a choice: either continue the senseless military rivalry, or resolve your real problems. This truth too is becoming ever more apparent.

Whatever aspect of the problem you take, the facts indicate the need for a new political thinking and new approaches to the problem of security and disarmament. They are trying to prevent the new way of thinking from establishing itself. It is invincible not because things will be better with the new way of thinking, but because with the old way they will be far worse then ever before. Nor merely worse. The old ways lead to inevitable catastrophe.

It is stupid to console yourself with the thought that we have lived "in peace" with the nuclear arms race for the first 40 years of the nuclear age by turning each other, and at the same time the entire world, into nuclear hostages. First, happy chance played a considerable role in this. Second, the dangers are constantly growing. Just as an old man of 80 cannot behave like a youth of 20, so given the present level -- and still more the future level -- of perfection of means of mass destruction and the complexity of international relations, we cannot permit ourselves what we got away with in the 1st decades of the nuclear era.

True realism lies in understanding the demands of the time and going forward, not pulling stubbornly backward. For that reason, and also because I believe in the Americans' common sense, it seems to me to be far from indisputable that the recommendations proposed by THE NEW YORK TIMES MAGAZINE article will form the basis of U.S. policy in the post-Reagan era. The world and, it is to be hoped, the United States will all the same move forward, not backward. Where the prevention of the nuclear threat is concerned, that is a matter of life and death.

PECK ON PAKISTAN NUCLEAR WEAPON CAPABILITY

LD061313 Moscow TASS in English 1154 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Washington March 6 TASS -- A high-ranking U.S. Administration official said Thursday that the United States could no longer get reliable guarantees from Pakistan that the latter did not produce materials for nuclear armaments.

Robert Peck, assistant deputy secretary of state, admitted at hearings in congress that in the current circumstances the administration could not firmly guarantee that the Pakistani regime did not pursue efforts to develop its own nuclear weapons.

Proofs of Islamabad being, as the newspaper "WASHINGTON POST" put it, "only a screwdriver's turn from having the bomb" puts the Reagan administration in an awkward position. U.S. laws ban military aid to those states which work on the development of their own nuclear weapons.

It is not by chance that having indirectly admitted that the reports on Islamabad's nuclear ambitions were grounded, the State Department spokesman called upon lawmakers to avoid public confrontation or ultimatums which could stand in the way of U.S. aid to Pakistan which has a big role to play in Washington's strategic plans.

Congress Concerned

LD091851 Moscow TASS in English 1830 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 9 TASS -- TASS news analyst Valeriy Vavilov writes:

A number of American congressmen declared that Pakistan's programme in the sphere of nuclear energetics had developed into the programme for creating nuclear arms. They expressed concern over the fact that the Reagan administration ignores such developments in Pakistan. This is a defiance to the nuclear non-proliferation policy, Senator John Glenn said in a debate on the question of a new six-year military and economic aid programme for Pakistan in the sum of over four billion dollars.

There are real grounds for concern of American congressmen. THE OBSERVER of London quoted a prominent Pakistani nuclear scientist as saying that his country has succeeded in producing weapons-grade uranium and making a nuclear bomb. With a reference to a classified report of the Defence Intelligence Agency, THE WASHINGTON POST writes that Pakistan is able to produce weapons-grade uranium at its Kahuta plant. American experts arrived at the conclusion that Pakistan is capable of producing four or five Hiroshima-size weapons annually.

Depite these obvious indications of Pakistan's intentions to have nuclear weapons, Washington actually continues conniving with such dangerous plans. Bypassing its own legislation which prohibits the rendering of military and economic aid to countries that produce or plan to produce nuclear weapons, Washington continues stepping up military aid to Pakistan and plans to appropriate ever more billions of dollars for the purpose and supply new consignments of military equipment.

It is apparent that Washington's egoistic interests in the region connected with the waging of the undeclared war against Afghanistan, the striving to use the territory of that country for the implementation of the policy of neo-globalism, for the heightening of tension in the area, prevent the U.S. Administration from realistically appraising its reponsibility and the acuteness of the danger which will be threatening peoples of the region, if a source of nuclear danger is created there.

MAINCHI SHIMBUN ON U.S. ACTIVITY SURROUNDING PRC

OW090914 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Mandarin to China 0400 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] According to Japan's MAINICHI SHIMBUN, the United States has vigorously carried out arms expansion in Guam and the Marianas Islands of the western Pacific. It has sent out several large transport vessels to ship hundreds of tanks, large-caliber guns, guided missile launchers, and a large amount of ammunition to these islands. According to MAINICHI SHIMBUN, most of the weapons will be used by the U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces on a so-called emergency basis. Our station observer writes the following about this issue:

The Soviet Union is calling for joint efforts to safeguard peace and security in the Asia-Pacific region, but the United States is singing a different song, while vigorously carrying out arms expansion. What MAINICHI SHIMBUN reports is merely a small part of U.S. efforts to increase its combat effectiveness in that area.

Included in the U.S. imperialist plan of aggression, South Korea has become an arsenal of nuclear weapons. Not long ago, the Pentagon decided to deploy Lance missiles with nuclear and neutron warheads in the sourthern part of South Korea. On Misawa Air Force Base in northern Japan, the work of deploying F-16 sophisticated bombers capable of carring nuclear weapons will soon be completed. In addition, the United States has deployed new, improved Hawk missiles on Okinawa. Recently, the United States has also increased the number of servicemen and military equipment on its military bases in the Philippines.

Weinberger, chieftain of the Pentagon, has said this is entirely aimed at thwarting the so-called Soviet threat to various countries in the region, including the United States. Perhaps some people believe this type of U.S. militarist action is aimed at dealing with the Soviet Union but the United States regards all the socialist countries in the area as its potential enemies. The U.S. goal is to destroy socialism. U.S. imperialism is always opposed to national liberation movements and to those developing countries that refuse to obey U.S. orders.

For example, the Philippine people oppose the United States for stationing troops in the Philippines, and instead uphold political independence. The United States, therefore, is exerting pressure on the Philippine people. The United States is also setting up military bases in South Korea and Pakistan, forming a semicircular ring of encirclement around the PRC.

One must not forget that former U.S. President Carter signed directive No 59 which has not yet been rescinded by the present administration. On the basis of this directive, U.S. nuclear missiles are still aimed at more than 100 important military targets in China.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON SHULTZ VISIT, MEETINGS

OW040129 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1200 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] According to a XINHUA Dispatch, Deng Xiaoping today met with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz who is visiting China.

The meeting was not made public [(huiwu shi bu gongkaidi)].

When the meeting began, Shultz handed a letter from President Reagan to Deng Xiaoping.

The U.S. Secretary of State yesterday met and held talks with Zhao Ziyang, Li Xiannian, Wu Xueqian, Zhang Aiping, and Li Peng.

On the evening of the same day, Shultz said at a banquet: Both sides have reiterated that they hold identical views on some sources of tension in Asia, including the Afghan and Cambodian issues.

He also said: During his talks with Chinese leaders, he discussed with them problems in and prospects for U.S.-Soviet and Sino-Soviet relations.

'Ugly' Policy Toward PRC

OW080548 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0700 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Mulatov commentary: "A Beautiful Cloak but an Ugly Essence"]

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State Shultz' visit to China has once again revealed the old problem in U.S. policy toward China. This is discussed in the following commentary by our station observer Mulatov. His commentary states:

Behind the beautiful cloak of the U.S. policy toward China was and is still hidden an extremely ugly essence. As is known to all, U.S. propaganda has tried for years to make Chinese public opinion view the Untied States as China's friend, one who is concerned about the well-being of your country and your advance along the road to modernization. During his visit to China, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz tried to project the image of a humanitarian and just America; he uttered many beautiful words about the 15th anniversary of the Shanghai Communique. One question was still not clarified. The question was when the United States would cease bargaining over the Taiwan issue, intervening in China's internal affairs, arming the U.S.-bolstered anticommunist regime in Taiwan, and blocking the solution of the Taiwan issue according to China's sovereignty. There was a further question of whether the United States would actually cease doing these things after all.

Actually, Shultz was unable to portray the so-called humanitarian and just image of the U.S. policy acceptable to Chinese public opinion. Nor could he deck out the United States as a so-called enthusiastic supporter of China's modernization drive. This was because, in the minds of the U.S. ruling clique, modernization is possible only when China embarks on the road of notorious bourgeois liberalization, a capitalist economic system, and the gradual abandonment of socialist achievements by the Chinese people. It was also for this reason that the U.S. secretary of state, like all other U.S. politicians making contacts with China, felt uneasy about the full-scale movement being developed across the country under the CPC leadership to uphold the four cardinal principles, resist the corrosive effects of bourgeois ideas, and achieve modernization on the basis of socialist politics, ideology, and economy.

Imperialist strategists fail to understand a historical fact: The Chinese people have forever discarded the ethics of capitalist civilization and the so-called value of this civilization that Washington has extensively advocated. Moreover, imperialist strategists refuse to understand the fact the Chinese people have linked their destiny closely with socialism.

As an AFP reporter in Beijing has confirmed, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz tried to explain the superiority of capitalism to the Chinese leaders, but without any fruitful results because he lacked major evidence to convince them. As you may recall, when U.S. President Reagan visited your country in the spring of 1984, he advocated on more than one occasion the so-called benefits of capitalist civilization, the superiority of capitalist economy, and so forth. Washington waited, and is still waiting, for China to change its color.

Previously, Washington entirely misunderstood the Chinese policy of expanding economic ties with foreign countries; now it is misinterpreting this policy. In the opinion of imperialist strategists, this policy will enable them to reestablish their position of monopoly capital in China, and to gain an instrument for undermining China's socialist status from within. It is for this reason that Washington is adopting a very sensitive attitude toward any measures that China has taken to restrict the infiltration of bourgeois ideas into the country.

As a matter of fact, U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, himself, acknowledged the futility of his efforts to advocate the advantages of capitalist civilization in China. In a speech, he said: As I understand it, the Chinese deem it infeasible for China to follow the Western example in every respect. This fact, which is now known to everyone with some education, became a new political discovery by the U.S. secretary of state.

Behind the beautiful cloak of U.S. policy toward China was and is hidden still an extremely ugly essence. Reports by observers from Beijing have said that during his visit the U.S. secretary of state was not pleased when the Chinese side stressed, in particular, that the United States should stop arms supplies to the Taibei regime. This question remains the biggest and most serious problem in Sino-U.S. relations after Shultz' visit to China. Here I would like to quote a statement by Zhao Ziyang: If the Taiwan question is not solved, it will damage Sino-U.S. relations.

An article in the New York WALL STREET JOURNAL on Shultz' visit to China acknowledged: We do not know China as well as we previously had thought. This reflected a certain degree of panic among those U.S. politicians and businessmen who stake their gains on China's construction.

SHEVARDNADZE CONTINUES SOUTHEAST ASIAN TOUR

Mokhtar on Talks

BK061240 Hong Kong AFP in English 1221 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Jakarta, March 6 (AFP) -- Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze agreed Friday to help try to solve the eight-year-old Cambodian conflict, although he made no new proposals, Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja said.

Mr. Mokhtar told reporters after two sessions of talks here with Mr. Shevardnadze lasting to total of 5-1/2 hours that the Cambodian issue had dominated their "very interesting and useful" discussions.

Earlier, after their first session of talks ended, Mr. Mokhtar said Mr. Shevardnadze had made no new initiative on Cambodia.

But Mr. Mokhtar said: "Both sides stated they would help find a settlement."

He said he thought the Soviet Union had a willingness to solve the Cambodian issue, but did not elaborate. [passage omitted]

Mr. Shevardnadze said through an interpreter: "Negotiations went well both in terms of contents and duration."

He added: "We discussed wide-ranging issues, bilateral and global."

When asked what bilateral issues had been discussed during Friday's talks Mr. Mokhtar replied: "I don't remember."

Talks With Suharto

LD070959 Moscow TASS in English 0949 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Jakarta March 7 TASS -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign minister, who is currently on an official visit here, has met with President Suharto of Indonesia today.

In the course of the meeting, the Soviet foreign minister explained to the Indonesian president the Soviet stand on matters pertaining to ensuring international security, curbing the weapons race on earth and its non-proliferation into outer space, prohibition of nuclear tests. President Suharto said that they in Indonesia highly valued the Soviet Union's efforts aimed at totally eliminating nuclear, chemical and other types of mass destruction weapons.

In discussing questions pertaining to the situation in the Asian-Pacific region, both sides pointed out the pressing need for stepping up the quest with the participation of all Asian states for ways to ensure peace and stability in that region, create here an atmosphere of goodneighbourliness and constructive cooperation at the bilateral and regional levels.

The sides declared for a political settlement of problems in South-east Asia, creating a peace zone in that region.

Eduard Shevardnadze reaffirmed the Soviet Union's intention to further pursue the policy of developing friendly relations with the ASEAN member states.

Mutual readiness was expressed for a further broadening and deepening of friendly and mutually beneficial relations between the USSR and Indonesia in the interests of the peoples of both countries, of strengthening peace in Asia and all over the world.

Gives Lecture, Meets Aktiv

LD071447 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1110 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Jakarta, 7 Mar (TASS) -- Eduard Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of foreign affairs, who is here for an official visit, today gave a lecture entitled "New Political Thinking in the Nuclear-Space Age" at the Center for Research and Development of the Indonesian Foreign Ministry. On the same day he held a news conference during which he answered questions from journalists.

At the USSR Embassy in Indonesia a meeting of the aktiv of employees of Soviet bodies took place at which Eduard Shevardnadze gave a talk on the tasks of foreign policy in the light of the decisions by the January (1987) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee.

Hold News Conference

LD071922 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 7 Mar 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast; video report on USSR Foreign Minister Shevardnadze's visit to Indonesia by correspondent Ilyashenko, identified by screen caption]

[Text] In the 2d half of the day there was a news conference.

[Begin Shevardnadze recording] We think highly of the active role of Indonesia in international affairs and note with satisfaction the proximity and coincidence of our positions on many key questions of a global nature. The Soviet Union and Indonesia have the same view of a very great many problems and concerns of the modern world. The talks showed that our two countries have a lasting foundation for cooperation on a regional basis.

The main thing is that we are agreed on the need to prevent any increase in military activity in the waters of the Pacific and Indian Oceans and to move toward reducing it. [end recording]

[Ilyashenko] Comrade Shevardnadze answered numerous questions from journalists.

Announces Talks With Shultz

BK071230 Hong Kong AFP in English 1128 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Jakarta, March 7 (AFP) -- Visiting Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze confirmed Saturday that he would meet U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz for disarmament talks in Moscow next month.

Mr. Shevardnadze said at a press conference that he would raise the issue of the U.S. Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI), the U.S. space defence program popularly known as "Star Wars," during his talks with the secretary of state.

"Central to those talks will be problems related to nuclear disarmament andthe preserving of outer space as a peaceful domain. These questions will be central in our negotiations," Mr. Shevardnadze said. [passage omitted]

Mr. Shevardnadze, on the third day of his four-day visit to Indonesia, confirmed at the press conference that Mr. Shultz would visit Moscow "probably" in mid-April. He did not mention the precise dates.

He said the Soviet disarmament proposal followed a decision by Moscow to separate the problem of SDI from that of medium-range missiles, rather than link them as Moscow had insisted at the Reykjavik summit between Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Mr. Shevardnadze said discussions on the problems of strategic weapons and outer space would continue and that Moscow expected to make "separate deals" on these issues.

At the Reykjavik summit, he said, the two sides had discussed reducing the number of medium range missiles to 100 warheads in Soviet Asia and a similar number in the United States.

"This is not a final resolution, but it is a step towards a solution. It will depend on whether we can agree with the Americans," Mr. Shevardnadze said.

On Friday, Mr. Shevardnadze said the Soviet Union was ready to give up its role as a nuclear power but only if the United States did likewise.

Discusses Cambodia Settlement

BK071410 Hong Kong AFP in English 1359 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Jakarta, March 7 (AFP) -- Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said Saturday that Moscow did not intend to intervene in the Cambodian conflict but urged Southeast Asian nations to continue their dialogue to find a settlement.

Mr. Shevardnadze said at a press conference on the third day of his four-day visit to Indonesia that he "did not present any new proposal" during talks Friday with Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja.

"The question of a settlement (to the Cambodian conflict) should be tackled by countries in Southeast Asia," he said.

Mr. Mokhtar urged the Soviet Union Friday to use its influence on Vietnam, Moscow's closest ally in the region, to withdraw the estimated 140,000 Vietnamese troops stationed in Cambodia.

"Vietnam is an independent and sovereign state and they determine their own policy," Mr. Shevardnadze said.

However he said Moscow was prepared to promote continued dialogue between Hanoi and its two Indochinese allies, Cambodia and Laos, and the non-communist countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

"We need to find a solution in accordance with the wishes of the people of Cambodia and the neighbouring countries," he said.

The Indochinese countries and Indonesia on behalf of ASEAN had interesting proposals and these formed a good basis for a dialogue, he added. [passage omitted]

Mr. Shevardnadze also ruled out drawing any parallels with a potential Soviet withdrawal from Afghanistan and the Vietnamese occupation of Cambodia as was suggested by Mr. Mokhtar in a speech Friday.

Observers noted that in both Bangkok and Australia at the beginning of his 11-day tour of Asia, Mr. Shevardnadze had been quoted as saying the current negotiations over Afghanistan could serve as a model for Cambodian solution.

He said Saturday however that "a direct parallel is not appropriate because the conditions are significantly different in the two countries."

"The stage of development is different, the region is different, the constellations of power are also different" he said without elaborating.

Asked if the refusal of ASEAN to talk with the Phnom Penh government posed a major obstacle to dialogue between the two regional groupings, he replied: "We should look at reality. There's a government in Phnom Penh... This is a fact."

He said a proposal by Phnom Penh for a dialogue with Mr. Sihanouk and other factions "except the (Chinese-backed) Khmer Rouge" deserved close attention and had to be seriously considered by those concerned.

(Reports from Bangkok Friday quoted Radio Hanoi as saying troops would not be withdrawn until the Khmer Rouge were "eliminated.")

Mr. Shevardnadze did not directly back the Radio Hanoi statement, but said that the atrocities committed by the Khmer Rouge between 1975 and 1979 (when Vietnam invaded the country) could not be forgotten. [passage omitted]

Foreign Military Presence

BK071601 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1500 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze has described as correct and reasonable Indonesia's position that a foreign military presence in Southeast Asia as a means to safeguard security in the Asia-Pacific region is unnecessary.

Speaking to newsmen in Jakarta this evening, Shevardnadze said the Soviet Union believes that no country in the world should be allowed to have its troops beyond its national boundaries.

As for economic and trade relations, he said that the two countries need to take new steps toward having direct contacts between their corporations and organizations. He added that Indonesian-Soviet cooperation can include the development and utilization of new energy resources, such as nuclear energy, the development of transportation and communications systems, the exchange of scientific information, the preservation of the environment, and the cultivation of marine resources.

Bilateral, Regional Issues

BK071547 Jakarta TVRI Television Network in Indonesian 1400 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Excerpts] Indonesia and the Soviet Union have a strong basis for cooperation on the regional level in preventing a military buildup in the Pacific and Indian Oceans. Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze made these remarks at a news conference attended by some 150 local and foreign journalists at the Soviet Embassy in Jakarta this evening. [passage omitted]

Replying to newsmen on the closure of the Aeroflot office in Indonesia, Shevardnadze said he did not discuss the matter with his Indonesian counterpart Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja or President Suharto. Shevardnadze added that even though Indonesia is an anticommunist country, that does not rule out the possibility of holding talks aimed at improving economic relations between the two countries.

During the hour-long news conference, the Soviet foreign minister regretted the increase of Japan's military budget and that country's involvement in the U.S. Strategic Defense Initiative program. He said that it is unnecessary for Japan to increase its military might in the Asia-Pacific region because the Soviet Union has reduced its military buildup in that region.

The news conference, which was open to all, started with a compliment to the Indonesian media, which has covered and reported his activities in Indonesia in a friendly manner.

Space Cooperation

BK071229 Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 1200 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] The Soviet Union has invited Indonesia to cooperate in space exploration by using Soviet launch vehicles. The offer is part of Soviet efforts to boost bilateral relations with Indonesia. According to Shevardnadze, these efforts should include direct contacts between private organizations and corporations of the two countries, the setting up of joint venture projects, and an expansion of scientific and technological exchange programs.

The offer was disclosed by visiting Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze at a press conference at the Soviet Embassy in Jakarta this evening.

As for his talks with Indonesian leaders, including President Suharto, the Soviet foreign minister described them as constuctive, open, and smooth. However, he admitted that differences of opinion still exist in several areas.

Shevardnadze also disclosed that an invitation had been extended to President Suharto and Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja to make an official visit to the Soviet Union. President Suharto had in principle accepted the invitation and the date of the visit would be discussed further.

Replying to newsmen on the solution to the Cambodian problem, Shevardnadze said that the two groups in Southeast Asia, namely ASEAN and the Indochinese countries, ought to have a dialogue to find a solution to the problem.

Domestic 'Resistance'

BK0071340 Hong Kong AFP in English 1335 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Jakarta, March 7 (AFP) -- Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said here Saturday that there is resistance in his country to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's new liberalization policies.

But Mr. Shevardnadze told a press conference on the third day of his four-day visit to Indonesia those against the liberalization were not in a majority and that they would be "helped."

"It is quite natural, the process of change in a society, of democratization, is not a simple one, and it is quite natural that not all are ready to engage in the process of change and renewal -- morally, mentally, psychologically and professionally," he said.

"But (those against it) are not regarded as enemies or foes. They are still Soviet people, though not the majority," the Soviet foreign minister added.

"We help those who resist but of course not by administrative sanctions or by repression, because trying to do that would be inconsistent with our efforts to move towards democratization," he said.

Mr. Shevardnadze did not elaborate on how the state would help the resisters.

Mokhtar Praises Visit

LD080945 Moscow TASS in English 0922 GMT Mar 87

[Text] Jakarta March 8 TASS -- Indonesian Foreign Minister Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja has given a press-conference today upon completion of the visit of Eduard Shevardnadze member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR foreign minister, who was on a visit in Indonesia at the invitation of the Indonesian Government.

The minister said that the USSR pursues a healthy and interesting policy in the international arena, whose important aspects are the trends set forth in the speech delivered by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU central committee, in his speech in Vladivostok.

Touching upon the talks held with Edward Shevardnadze in Jakarta, Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja said that they had proceeded in the good, friendly atmosphere and in a constructive spirit. A deep and highly useful exchange of views was held on a broad range of issues pertaining to bilateral relations, regional and global problems, he said. The talks were "highly interesting" and the visit — a very useful one, Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja continued.

Eduard Shevardnadze briefed the Indonesian side on the change currently under way in The USSR within the framework of accelerated economic development, a broadening of public openness and democratisation. The USSR's foreign policy mirrors this change, the Indonesian foreign minister stressed.

The minister noted that the sides had agreed to raise the level of trade and economic relations, more actively using to that end the joint Soviet-Indonesian commission. On top of that, agreement has been reached to develop relations in the socio-cultural field and sports. The sides have pointed out the need for holding periodical political consultations.

Joint Communique

PM091020 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 9 Mar 87 First Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "Joint Soviet-Indonesian Communique"

[Text] E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR foreign minister, was in Indonesia on an official visit from 5 to 8 March 1987 at the invitation of the Government of the Republic of Indonesia.

E.A. Shevardnadze was received by Suharto, president of the republic. In the course of the meeting it was noted with satisfaction that friendly relations between the USSR and Indonesia, founded on the principles of peaceful coexistence among states, equality and mutual respect, self-determination and noninterference in internal affairs, are taking on a more and more stable and varied character. Mutual interest in further strengthening and broadening them was confirmed. It was stressed that the official visit by President Suharto to the Soviet Union will be a weighty contribution to the development of relations between the two countries.

Talks were held between E.A. Shevardnadze and Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja, Indonesian foreign minister, in the course of which there was discussion in a frank [otkrovenniyy] and friendly atmosphere of the state of and prospects for the development of Soviet-Indoneisan ties, and a review was made of a wide circle of international problems of mutual interest. The ministers expressed themselves in favour of stepping up exchanges of opinions at various levels on bilateral relations and on the international situation.

Attention was drawn to the contribution which contacts between the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Indonesian House of People's Representatives make toward strengthening mutual understanding between the people of the two countries.

The sides declared their intention of making fuller use of the available opportunities for expanding trade exchanges, with the aim of deepening mutually beneficial economic cooperation. Giving a positive appraisal of the creation of a joint Soviet-Indonesian trade and economic cooperation commission, they consider it necessary to bring its mechanism into play and also to set out the specific directions, objectives and conditions of cooperation. Readiness to develop scientific and technical ties, and cultural and sports exchanges was confirmed.

Expressing deep concern about the continuing tension in the world, the escalation of the nuclear and conventional arms race and the increase in the danger of its spreading to outer space, the sides stressed that safeguarding peace and international security is the most pressing issue of the present time. They expressed their conviction that all states, first and foremost those possessing nuclear weapons, must play their part in removing the threat of a nuclear catastrophe and stated their readiness to cooperate in achieving these goals with all other countries irrespective of their size and differences in sociopolitical systems.

Attention was drawn by the Soviet side to the program, put forward in the statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on 15 January 1986, for totally eliminating nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons by the end of the present century, to the proposal of the Soviet Union and of the other socialist countries regarding setting up an all-embracing system of international security, and to the principles drawn up in Delhi for building a nonviolent world free of nuclear weapons. The content of the new major initiative of the USSR on the issue of medium-range missiles was elucidated.

The Soviet Union and Indonesia advocate an immediate halt to all nuclear weapons tests and the earliest possible conclusion of a multilateral treaty completely banning them.

The ministers spoke out in favor of preventing the arms race from spreading into space and of developing international cooperation in the exploitation of space exclusively for peaceful purposes. They also stressed the need to step up efforts at the disarmament conference to conclude a convention on banning chemical weapons.

Discussing questions related to the situation in different regions of the globe, the sides expressed serious anxiety over the exacerbation of tension, something which carries a threat to universal peace and security. They reaffirmed their principled position concerning the need for a political solution to conflicts and disputes in accordance with generally recognized norms of international law.

The parties to the talks noted the urgent need to arrive at a just and comprehensive settlement in the Near East in accordance with UN resolutions. In this context, they backed the convocation of an international conference with the participation of all the interested parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organization, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. They advocate the earliest halt to the war between Iran and Iraq and the settlement of the conflict by peaceful means at the negotiating table. Having set out their respective positions on the Afghanistan question, the sides regard the talks being conducted in Geneva, through the mediation of a representative of the UN general secretary, as useful, and express the hope that they will end with specific results.

Both sides condemned the shameful apartheid system in South Africa and the continuing occupation of Namibia by the racist Pretoria regime. They called on the international community to take urgent measures for the elimination of the apartheid system in South Africa and for the immediate granting of independence to Namibia in strict accordance with decisions of the OAU and the United Nations, and stressed the need for the speediest possible introduction of comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the racist Pretoria regime.

Special attention was paid during the talks to the situation in the Asian-Pacific region.

The ministers noted the urgent need to step up the search, with the involvement of all Asian states, for ways to ensure peace and security in the area and to create an atmosphere facilitating the development of friendly and cooperative relations at bilateral and regional levels.

In connection with this, the Soviet side gave a detailed explanation of the package of initiatives aimed at guaranteeing security in Asia and in the Pacific and Indian Oceans, and at establishing peaceful cooperation and interaction in the Asian and Pacific region, as expounded in M.S. Gorbachev's speech in Vladivostok.

Having affirmed their position in favor of turning the Indian Ocean into a zone of peace, the Soviet Union and Indonesia called for the urgent convening of an international conference on this issue, which should begin work no later than 1988. They gave support to the idea of creating nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world, regarding these as an important step in the interests of international peace and security. They welcomed and expressed their support for establishing a zone free of nuclear weapons in the southern part of the Pacific Ocean.

Having put forward their respective assessments of the situation in Southeast Asia and the reasons for the problems existing in this region, the sides were in agreement on the fact that it is of key importance for peace and stability in the region to continue and step up constructive efforts aimed at working out a mutually acceptable political solution to issues relating to Cambodia. They were also in accord that interested countries outside the region might make a useful contribution toward seeking such a political solution.

The Soviet side reaffirmed the consistent approach of the Soviet Union in favor of a political settlement in Southeast Asia and its interest in ensuring peace and stability in this region. The firm intention of continuing to pursue a course aimed at strengthening and developing friendly relations with the ASEAN member countries was expressed.

The ministers noted the growing role of the Nonaligned Movement as an influential force actively supporting the adoption of measures designed to ensure universal peace and security and the creation of a new international economic order. The importance of the decisions adopted by the 8th conference of heads of state and government of the nonaligned countries in Harare was emphasized.

The Soviet Union and Indonesia support the reconstruction of international economic relations on a just and democratic basis and the establishment of a new international economic order. In their view, the tasks of normalizing international economic relations and of affirming trade-economic and scientific-technical cooperation between countries, devoid of all discrimination, are becoming increasingly important and pressing in the current international situation.

Having underlined the close interconnection between disarmament and development, they consider it necessary to switch the resources being spent today on military needs to purposes of socioeconomic development, including granting aid to developing countries.

Noting the usefulness of holding consultations between the two countries on issues relating to bilateral relations and international problems of mutual interest, and also within the framework of international organizations and multilateral forums, the sides agreed to continue such consultations.

Both sides expressed their satisfaction with the results of the visit which will serve to strengthen mutual understanding between the two countries and peoples and promote further development of friendly Soviet-Indonesian relations.

E.A. Shevardnadze expressed gratitude for the warm and hearty welcome given to him on Indonesian soil. An invitation was conveyed on behalf of the Soviet Government to M. Kusumaatmaja, Indonesian foreign minister, to pay an official visit to the USSR. The invitation was accepted with thanks.

Departs for Laos

LD080712 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0654 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Text] Jakarta, 8 March (TASS) -- After concluding his official visit to Indonesia, E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of foreign affairs, today left Jakarta for Vientiane. He was seen off at the airport by the Indonesian Minister of Foreign Affairs Mokhtar Kusumaatmaja and other officials.

VIENTIANE BOMB APPARENTLY AIMED AT SHEVARDNADZE

OW100613 Tokyo KYODO in English 0605 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Bangkok, March 10 KYODO -- An explosion in front of the Soviet Information Center in the Laotian capital of Vientiane which killed one person and wounded another Monday, was an apparent sabotage action aimed at Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze, Laotian sources here said Tuesday.

The incident occurred around 7 a.m. Monday (9 a.m. Japan time) [1400 GMT], the second day of Shevardnadze's visit to the Indochinese country, the sources said. They said the information center was not damaged but cars parked nearby were destroyed.

Shevardnadze, now in Vientiane on the fourth leg of his six-nation Asian and Oceania tour, was scheduled to visit the information center Monday night, according to the sources. The explosion by a timing device had been set for 7 p.m., not 7 a.m., to coincide with Shevardnadze's scheduled visit to the center, according to the sources.

There has been no word about the incident from the official news media in Vientiane.

Shevardnadze arrived in Vientiane Sunday from Jakarta after stopping Thailand and Australia. The Soviet foreign minister will complete his tour with visits to Kampuchea and Vietnam.

ZAYKOV 'WORKING VISIT' TO PRAGUE ON CPCZ INVITATION

Departs Moscow; Prague Arrival

PM041203 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the Invitation of the CPCZ Central Committee"]

[Text] L.N. Zaykov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, left Moscow for a working visit to Prague on 2 March at the invitation of the CPCZ Central Committee.

He was seen off at the airport by M.S. Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee, and senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

CSSR Ambassador to the USSR M. Zavadil was among those seeing him off.

On the same day L.N. Zaykov arrived in Prague.

He was greeted at the airport by M. Jakes, Presidium member and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; J. Haman, Presidium candidate member and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; M. Hruskovic, candidate member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium; and other officials.

The welcoming party included USSR Ambassador to the CSSR V.P. Lomakin.

Attends Economic Conference

LD070007 Prague Television Service in Czech 2115 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Report on 4 March CPCZ economic conference in Prague; Lev Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, responds to questions by unidentified conference participants]

[Text] [Announcer] At the party economic conference convened Wednesday in the palace of culture in Prague by the CPCZ Central Committee on the occasion of Comrade Lev Zaykov's working visit to Czechoslovakia, the Soviet guest made a speech which we have reported in detail in our news bulletins and whose main points have been published in the daily press.

Comrade Lev Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, fielded a number of questions from the participants in the conference and replied to them directly. Now we are returning to that part of the conference.

The first question Comrade Zaykov answered concerned the application of the leading role of the party in the new conditions of economic management:

[Begin recording] [Zaykov, in Russian with Czech translation superimposed] The essence of my response is this. The CPSU is the leading party, and there can be no weakening of its role in our society. There can be no question of that. The bill on state enterprises states, for example, that the party organization directs and leads the work of the whole collective and is its political core. There is another side to the matter, and that is the methods used by the party in its practical work. Naturally, these methods must be improved continually and the changes in the life of society must be reflected in them. We are faced with complicated work in new conditions and in a new way. The party's influence, the party's authority must be ensured. Restructuring affects all echelons of society, the party committees at all levels, and, above all, its work with cadres; and today, of course, that work is much more complicated. I must tell you that we have to deal with the following cadre question, and I have already been asked about this: Let us suppose that we recommend someone who is part of the nomenklatura [list of people suitable to fill posts which may be filled only with party approval] of the oblast party committee, but the people do not select the comrade we recommended as a candidate, but someone else. The question is: What about the nomenklatura? I think that this situation has to be viewed more flexibly; probably the person who was selected should become part of the nomenklatura. Not all our traditional methods can be used, not at the moment of restructuring or especially after restructuring has been carried out -- we understand that, but we have to move forward; we just cannot go on marking time, and that is why these questions are of concern for you. Naturally they bother you, but they bother us too. We are convinced that here we are going along the right path.

[Question] What will be the principles for the establishment of associations headed by a general director?

[Zaykov] By ministry order, in which case there will be a relevant agreement with the given territory. If there is no agreement, then an interterritorial association is created, and the local party organs always protest -- that is the way of things! In cases like this, the Council of Ministers must make a decision; the council must approve it. It will investigate whether it is worthwhile. There is no other way of doing it, because -- I tell you quite openly -- local and parochial interests come into play.

Even in the party organs there is the kind of first secretary who thinks that he is lord and master -- someone wants to see him, but he'll hardly tell them anything, whether they like it or not! In the new conditions, particularly in the conditions of restructuring, everyone must take a correct approach to matters at their workplace, and the creation of scientific-production associations, or associations as such, must have an economic basis, technological principles. It must be based on internal enterprise cooperation and specialization. That is the basis.

We spoke on this subject today when we were in the enterprises, and not just today, in fact. How should such a general director appointed? (?This will be set out) in our law. We can make recommendations, but it will be the collective who elects the director of a plant that belongs to the association; it will be the collective of the plant in which he works. A council of the work collective will function there. In our country then, the general director will be elected by the council of the association. Who will be the representatives of the enterprises? They probably will be the chairman of the different councils; at least that is how we expect things to be. They can elect the director of that council, or they can choose not to do so, that is also a possibility. Then the general director is elected, then the other directors -- in short, that is the answer to the question; but the main thing, of course, is complete economic accountability [khozraschet]. There must be complete economic accountability [khozraschet], and on a self-financing and economically viable basis.

Under these conditions, everyone will strive to ensure that they work cost-consciously; they will strive to ensure that they are responsible for their work not on a general, overall basis, but that they have concrete profits, that they have everything in concrete terms. That is what we are striving to achieve. Beginning this year, if orders are fulfilled to 100 percent, management can propose bonuses. Even if the plan is fulfilled to 99.9 percent, it will mean that the enterprise, that is to say its management, does not have the right to distribute bonuses.

[Question] I have another question here: Do you intend, in conditions of complete economic accountability, to make grants available for the financing of certain programs of industrial sectors and can give concrete examples in this area?

[Zaykov] I have to say that the question is very complicated. Today we already have functioning principles that have stood up to the test. But we also have enterprises which are far from showing profits, which on the contrary, show losses. We do not convert these to complete economic accountability. It is necessary to concept those enterprises which would be capable of earning money and when the enterprise is continually dependent on government subsidy that is no longer economically accountable. That is one question.

The other question is, what does one do with enterprises, or how does one deal with enterprises that are simply working badly -- that is an enterprise which does not show a loss, but which, for one reason or another, does not succeed in preparing production properly, as is the case in our country in many places -- or one simply has forgotten to solve some questions, and so in the end we get a contrary or negative result. In such an enterprise, first, the collective will not elect such a director a second time. In the draft law it is even set out that such an enterprise can even be liquidated. If for some years because of its own fault it does not show a profit, has losses, the problems will be studied and the government will make the necessary decision.

For example, take our coal industry. The whole industry shows a loss. Why? The cause is simple. All the norms, all equipment, is out of date. Earlier we minded on the sufface; now we go very deep; it is continually more difficult, expenses are growing, so production is not profitable. Naturally we can change the wholesale prices. But look at the consequences all this would have. We increase the wholesale price of coal. Immediately the cost of metal will raise, and if metal prices rise then so will those of engineering in general. When we studied this question as a whole, we decided that the whole price system must be revised.

This question is being studied today, and we will continue to study it; we also have spoken with Mikhail Sergeyevich on this subject. We will put this question forward for discussion in the Politburo. Naturally the most important thing is that we must create such conditions for collectives so that they never make a loss, so that they are economically viable in their wholesale prices, and, at the same time, we are also creating conditions so that they also can secure profits for themselves. In short, the necessary norms adjust this. But if later you begin to work badly again, then its too bad; its your own fault.

[Question] Another question: How will the questions of supplier-consumer relations be solved in the Soviet economy?

[Zaykov] Well, today I visited an enterprise of yours and there I expressed my views. I must say that I didn't really understand where I was in the factory, or in the workshop, or whether I was in some sort of store. Everything is piled up there. In every department there is about 50 percent of an area where you see various sheets of metal, wires, all sorts of things, all kinds of equipment, and when you look at the amount, then it has stores for 3 years ahead. Why? The money is there, so while they are giving it and keep taking it, it then will come in useful. But what happens when it is converted to complete economic accountability? Then wholesale principles will apply. According to the wholesale principles, it will take only as much as it needs for the existing program. This is done in almost all countries, or at least this is done in capitalist ones. You see they are continually counting money. They are continually counting profits. Is there money? Yes, there is. When there isn't then there is nothing to live on, is there? So, now we will introduce this order and we don't expect anything else.

[Question] I have another question: Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said that an engineer is the main person in the scientific and technical revolution. Yes, there is true. What concrete measures is the CPSU Central Committee taking to further increase the prestige and role of engineers, designers, technologists in industrial enterprises, and not only in industrial enterprises?

[Zaykov] Well, the first thing is already possible in our country now, and it has already been tested, actually in Leningrad -- that is the Leningrad experience, so that the prestige of engineers and designers is raised, so that their wages also grow. But the engineer does not just come to collect his wage or salary -- he is earning that salary, and that is a different principle. It is the same principle I have spoken of already. You see we have such cases; let us say when he had a salary of R200, the same designer will now get R500 per month. That is two and a half times as much. Why? Because he is also giving twice as much and of a much higher quality. Special norms within factories and enterprises have been created and this concerns the factory.

As far as the Academy of Sciences and their calculations, today they also are studying these questions in such a way that a worker who has, for example, invented something or brought great benefit, is given a much higher remuneration. These remunerations are very low at the moment and this is not right. Often he benefits the state to the value of tens of millions of roubles and gets a miserable reward for it. That is what Mikhail Sergeyevich was thinking about. The necessary directives have been given; the guidelines already exist. The president of the Academy of Sciences is new, Comrade Marchuk. He is already working on these questions, on making the workers of the academy younger. This is a process that is taking place at present. Resolutions already have been adopted; it will be published; you probably know part of them already. In short, we are working with this question, we working on it.

[Question] The next question is as follows: How, specifically, will the binding orders of the state plan reach the enterprises?

[Zaykov] In principle the system will remain the same, the same system, the same as now -- a basic range which Gosplan sets; and Gosplan with the ministries sets the range and the numbers. This is binding; we have a planned economy. You will not be able to hide from it anywhere. We have an economy that is based on planning. Direct relations are something else; this is an economic plan. Today, let us say, some enterprise or other has a set plan of 1 billion, and we, let's say, instruct it to produce 800 million, and for the remaining 200 million it can have direct relations and then, at the same time, it can have agreements for larger amounts.

In short, it is all being done on the basis of a new approach. Enterprises are gaining more independence, but the plan, the principle of planning, these fundamentals remain.

You know that in our state the economy is planned and that is why we cannot give it up completely, drift away from it. So here you have economic agreements Then, as I have already said, there is the most important thing. I already have talked about this problem: long-term norms that are set out for enterprises, that is norms for 5 years, the 5-year period. The collective works out its own internal plan to have the greatest possible profits while fulfilling all tasks set. The fund of development, the fund of material incentives, depends on this, and so do other things: the social, cultural sphere -- all this also depends on it. So self-finance is an important principle of long-term norms. We have always set them for the 5-Year Plan, which enables the collective to create for itself in the 1st year, at the beginning of its path, such conditions in which it might be possible to have the greatest possible profit, and the maximum amount of money could be set for these tasks. That is how we understand this question.

[Question] What is the outlook for further cooperation in the automobile industry with regard to production technology?

[Zaykov] I think that it should be as flexible and as lively as possible. Here also we must arrive at joint enterprises. We have certain intentions or plans very well worked out. You are well aware, perhaps, that people like our Vaz cars even in the CSSR. Now we will have a new Moskvich, with front-wheel drive, the No 8 model. It is true that we did not make it on time in some respects. We wanted to purchase the engine, so it would be by license. The Politburo, however, adopted a resolution not to buy outside but to design our own engine that would correspond technically to the best examples; and it has been worked out. The task was set in the summer and so we put the best designers behind a table to have a bit of a competition and they have already created a great and economical engine. So here, and in any other branch of engineering, there are exceptional possibilities for cooperation, for joint enterprises, for direct relations, and we are for this. [applause] [end recording]

Addresses Party Aktiv 5 Mar

PM091123 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Mar 87 p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Party and Economic Aktiv Meeting in Prague"]

[Text] Prague, 5 Mar -- A party and economic aktiv meeting of Prague and the Central Bohemian Kraj was held here yesterday.

Opening the aktiv meeting, M. Jakes, member of the Presidium and secretary of the Central Committee of the CPCZ, stressed that its aim was to familiarize the participants with the activity of the CPSU and the Soviet people in implementing the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress.

The aktiv meeting was addressed by L.N. Zaykov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is here on a working visit. He noted that his visit to fraternal Czechoslovakia is of a working nature. Its chief aim is to exchange experience of the multifaceted and wide-ranging work being performed in our countries to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 17th CPCZ Congress, and, of course, to exchange opinions on questions of the further intensification of collaboration between the CPSU and the CPCZ.

The all-embracing democratization of Soviet society is the core of restructuring, its load-bearing structure. Here we proceed from Lenin's thesis that socialism and democracy are inseparable. The main purport of the January plenum from the viewpoint of the solution of all problems of restructuring is the development of democracy in the economy, in politics, and in the party itself -- but on a socialist basis. We see in the steady development of socialist democracy the main guarantee of the irreversibility of the restructuring process, a guarantee that the errors of the past will not be repeated and that the people's creative potential will be revealed.

Paramount importance attaches to the development of democracy in the production sphere. For that we believe it is important that every worker should feel himself to be the master at his production facility and should be aware of his responsibility for the collective's affairs. We want to materially realize Lenin's idea of socialist self-management. The law on the state enterprise, whose draft was published and is being widely discussed in our country, is aimed at this.

L.N. Zaykov elucidated in detail the questions regarding the development of socialist democracy. Our main aim, he noted, is to make the maximum use of all institutions of socialist democracy, to fill them with new content, to bring them into line with the tasks of acceleration and restructuring, and to reveal more fully the advantages of the socialist system.

The 1st year of the present 5-year plan, he said, has produced good results. Positive advances have taken place in the national economy and its effectiveness has been enhanced. The development rate has been accelerated in nearly all sectors and the level of the average annual targets for the 5-year plan has been reached for a number of the most important avenues. Nonetheless, we in the Central Committee and the Politburo, in assessing the situation from positions of realism, are clearly aware that the country is at the initial stage of restructuring. In resolving current problems, we set ourselves the goal of putting into operation with increased vigor the long-term growth factors and primarily those which ensure the national economy's intensive development.

The main component of this process is a substantial increase in the tempo of the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the speediest introduction of its achievements into practice. This task is equally acute for all the fraternal socialist countries.

Considering the key role of machine building in the acceleration of scientific and technical progress and the transfer of all sectors of the national economy to an intensification footing, the CPSU has centered its economic policy on the implementation of qualitative changes in the development of precisely this sector. Of course, we see the solution of this far from simple task inter alia on the paths of the closing pooling of efforts with the fraternal CEMA countries, above all with those who have considerable machine building potential.

Czechoslovakia undoubtedly is one of those countries. The priority avenues of our collaboration are defined by the program for long-term economic and scientific and technical cooperation between the USSR and the CSSR and the comprehensive program for the scientific and technical progress of the CEMA countries through the year 2000.

We set ourselves the task of doing everything to ensure that the comprehensive program becomes a powerful accelerator of our countries' socioeconomic development and our emergence onto the front lines of science and technology. [paragraph continues]

Our meetings and talks during this visit show that your side also is displaying the desire for the full and effective implementation of this collective program. It is important now to keep this question under constant party control inasmuch as it is of not only economic but also important political significance.

The use of new integration forms is designed to play an important part in the further intensification of cooperation and the joint search for ways of resolving the tasks of accelerating scientific and technical progress and intensifying socialist production on this basis.

The first shoots of these forms already exist in Soviet-Czechoslovak relations. A marked step has been taken in the establishment of production sharing ties between our countries' associations and enterprises. The international "Robot" science and production association is developing its activity. It has a comprehensive program for work through 1990. Of course, at the initial stage, difficulties and problems requiring solution are inevitable. The question now is how to improve the work of this association and what measures should be taken for this purpose.

So far, not a single joint enterprise has been commissioned within the framework of our bilateral cooperation. We regard these enterprises as one of the most promising forms of economic collaboration between partners from the fraternal countries. We think there is an urgent need to activate work work in this direction.

L.N. Zaykov then dwelled on the formation in the USSR of a unified and integral system of economic management in accordance with the present stage of the Soviet economy's development, including the improvement of the mechanism of foreign economic relations with foreign countries.

While resolving current tasks of economic integration, we must also think of the long term. The collective concept of the international socialist division of labor for 15-20 years, work on which is in full swing, is designed to determine the most effective ways and methods of pooling the fraternal countries' efforts on the most important salients of the intensification of social production and to arm us all with a specific program of action.

The transformations, revolutionary in their essence, which have been broached in the USSR are of enormous importance for the destiny of the world. The restructuring we have initiated with such scope and which is irreversible is showing everyone clearly and precisely where we want to direct our resources, where our thoughts are turned, what our real programs and intentions are, and how we wnt to spend our economic potential and our society's intellectual energy. That is the competition to which we invite the capitalist system.

To ensure that competition develops in civilized forms worthy of 21st century mankind, new thinking is also needed in international affairs. the renunciation of worn and strong-arm politics in the nuclear and space age is the basis of the concept of a new political thinking. Soviet people are satisfied that it is the USSR that has been the initiator in ridding the world's peoples of the nuclear threat in the immediate historical future -- by the end of this century.

The 15 January 1986 statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the foreign policy initiatives of the 27th party congress and subsequent steps in this direction inspire confidence in the feasibility of this and make it possible to look into the future with optimism.

The year 1986, proclaimed International Peace Year by the United Nations, was the year of the birth of the program giving the peoples hope for the world's liberation from nuclear weapons and a ban on the use of space for the purposes of war. No one now denies the pernicious consequences of the catastrophe of nuclear war. The interconnection of the survival of states and peoples determines the need for a qualitatively new approach toward the problem of national security — this is also one of the distinguishing signs of the new political thinking.

M.S. Gorbachev's speech at the forum "For a Nuclear-Free World, for the Survival of Humanity" set forth the main avenues of the new philosophy of international relations. We assess the forum's results as a success for the fraternal socialist countries' coordinated line in the foreign policy field.

In an attempt to resolve the nuclear disarmament problem despite all the difficulties and artificial obstacles, the USSR recently took one more major step in this direction: M.S. Gorbachev's statement proposed singling out the problem of medium-range missiles in Europe from the entire block of questions (package) of the Soviet-U.S. talks and concluding a separate agreement on this problem, and doing this immediately, for which in fact a ready-made accord does exist. A broad road has thus been opened toward a real and major step, toward Europe's complete liberation from nuclear armaments.

It is highly notable that it is the socialist states which are putting forward major, broad-scale proposals aimed at making Europe a continent of peace. We support the proposal from Czechoslovakia and the other socialist countries to convene an all-European economic forum, and we put forward the proposal to hold a conference in Moscow on all aspects of humanitarian problems.

Our visit to hospitable Czechoslovakia is coming to an end. It has taken place successfully, in a spirit of unity of views and complete mutual understanding, and has made it possible to synchronize our watches, so to speak, to share our problems and plans for the future sincerely and confidentially.

This is a special year — the year of the 70th anniversary of the Great October. This date will be celebrated by working people of all countries of the world and of the socialist community, L.N. Zaykov said in conclusion. We know that many of Czechoslovakia's labor collectives have pledged to ensure deliveries of ouput to the USSR on time and to a high standard of quality. We see in this a manifestation of true internationalism in the spirit of the great son of the Czechoslovak people Klement Gottwald: "With the Soviet Union forever and never otherwise!"

The aktiv meeting was attended by A. Kopek, member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium and first secretary of the Prague City party committee, J. Haman, candidate member of the presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, and the leaders of federal and republican ministries.

On the same day, L.N. Zaykov visited the Prague "CKD-Lokomotiva-Sokolovo" machine building enterprise, which makes large deliveries of electric locomotives to the USSR.

Meets CPCZ Leaders

PM051507 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "At the Invitation of the CPCZ Central Committee"]

[Text] A meeting has been held in Prague between L.N. Zaykov and M. Jakes, J. Haman, and M. Hruskovic.

L.N. Zaykov described the restructuring of all spheres of Soviet society's life that began in the USSR after the 27th CPSU Congress and the results of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum.

M. Jakes described progress in the CSSR working people's implementation of the 17th CPCZ Congress decisions. He noted that the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum's decisions have found a broad response and support within the CPCZ and among the Czechoslovak public.

The meeting highly rated the level of development of Soviet-Czechoslovak relations and drew attention to the need for the further deepening of production-sharing and cooperation and the establishment of direct production links between partners in the two countries in their search for new, progressive forms of cooperation.

Exchanges Views With Husak

PM061129 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general headline: "Party and Economic Aktiv Meeting in Prague"]

[Text] Prague, 5 Mar -- Today Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and CSSR president, received Comrade Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is on a working visit to Czechoslovakia. During their conversation, which took place in an atmosphere of comradely cordiality and full unity of views characteristic of the relations between the CPSU and the CPCZ, key questions of Soviet-Czechoslovak economic, scientific, and technical cooperation as well as prospects for extending it through the utmost expansion of specialization and cooperation and the implementation of the CEMA member-countries' comprehensive program for scientific and technical progress until the year 2000 were discussed.

It was noted that the decisions of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum, welcomed with ardent interest and approval by the Czechoslovak Communists and all working people, open up new horizons in the development and intensification of collaboration between the two fraternal parties and states in the interests of the consistent implementation of the course of the 27th CPSU Congress and the 17th CPCZ Congress aimed at accelerating socioeconomic development.

It was noted with satisfaction that the foreign policy conducted on the initiative of the USSR and other socialist community countries and directed at delivering the peoples of the world from nuclear threat in the immediate future has received an important new stimulus in the past few days in the statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, on 28 February this year. [paragraph continues]

The proposal for solving the problem of intermediate range missiles in Europe has opened up wide possibilities for a truly major step on the road of disarmament and ensuring lasting peace.

Taking part in the talks were M. Jakes, member of the presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; J. Haman, candidate member of the presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee; and V.P. Lomakin, USSR ambassador to the CSSR.

Visits Plants, Associations

PM091002 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Mar 87 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On CSSR Soil"]

[Text] Prague, 4 Mar — L.N. Zaykov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who is in the CSSR on a working visit, has visited the Bukov Science and Production Association and the Robot International Soviet-Czechoslovak Science and Production Association in the city of Presov.

During the conversations with workers and specialists, the state of and prospects for Sovit-Czechoslovak cooperation in the sphere of robotics arising from the Comprehensive Program for Scientific and Technical Progress of the CEMA Countries up to the Year 2000 were discussed.

L.N. Zaykov studied the experience of the international association's 2 years of activity; its tasks include the development of production sharing and specialization, collaboration in the development of an integrated technical policy, and the attainment of the highest technical and economic parameters in the output produced. He drew attention to the need for the speediest development of research and production on the basis of the principles of mutual advantage and complete trust.

On the same day, L.N. Zaykov toured South Moravian Kraj. He visited the Lachema chemicals plant, one of the leading enterprises in this sector in the CEMA countries, which cooperates closely with partners in the USSR, and the (Tos) machine-tool building plant in Kurim.

Reviews Visit; Gorbachev Visit

LD052002 Prague Television Service in Czech 1849 GMT 5 Mar 87

["Interview" granted by Lev Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee on 5 March after a meeting with Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee at Prague Castle -- recorded in Russian with superimposed Czech translation]

[Text] I have very strong impressions. I managed to see a lot, including industrial enterprises, and to talk to engineers, managers and workers. The important thing is that relations between our nations and parties are very good. This has been demonstrated in the factories and in the talks we had with the working people, in particular. Our line of restructuring is being fully supported. Yesterday I gave a speech at a Party economic working meeting, where I explained the purpose of restructuring. We have no other path, it is an irreversible process.

I was even more firmly convinced that our Czechoslovak friends fully support the line of restructuring set out by our Party and its Central Committee. Not only people support this line and take an active part in it; today, working people throughout Czechoslovakia fully support the chosen path of restructuring.

As far as our further mutual relations are concerned, as far as their development and strengthening are concerned, in the framework of the Program of Scientific and Technical Cooperation up to the Year 2000, which has been approved by our governments, we held very detailed discussions with Comrade Jakes, secretary of the Party Central Committee and member of the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium. They dealt with various areas, but there are still a number of issues which still need to be worked on. It is quite clear that there is full mutual understanding and expansion of these relations in the framework of the Program of Scientific and Technical Progress.

I have just come away from a meeting with Comrade Husak, which produced a strong impression on me. We also discussed issues concerning the further development of our mutual relations. We reviewed the preparations now being made in Czechoslovakia and the measures which will still have to be taken in our country for the successful course of a visit by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, which is to take place shortly. The conclusions of the January plenum is to take place shortly. The conclusions of the January plenum and of the 27th party congress, and of the 17th CPCZ Congress, are fully supported by the central committees of the parties in Czechoslovakia and in the Soviet Union, we also spoke about this matter. The preparations are in full swing. We believe -- and this view in shared by Comrade Husak -- that the visit by Mikhail Sergeyevich will pass off successfully, and that further important issues will undoubtedly be resolved.

Returns to Moscow

LD060039 Moscow Television Service in Russian 2245 GMT 5 Mar 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] On 5 March, Comrade Zaykov, who had been in Czechoslovakia on a working visit, returned to Moscow. At Vnukovo Airport he was met by Comrade Vorotnikov and senior officials of the CPSU Central Committee.

IZVESTIYA ON SWEDISH DELEGATION'S KREMLIN VISIT

PM021259 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 1 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Reception in the Kremlin"]

[Text] "We have proceeded and still proceed from the fact that for mankind there is no more important problem than nuclear disarmament and the struggle to preserve life on earth."

That is how Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium began his answer to the first question asked by Ingemund Bengtsson, speaker of the Swedish Riksdag. The point of this question was to describe the international situation and Soviet-U.S. relations at the moment, now that some time has passed since the summit meeting in Reykjavik between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the U.S. President.

This dialogue took place on 27 February in the Kremlin during a conversation between A.A. Gromyko and a delegation from the Swedish Riksdag, which is currently in the Soviet Union on an official visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet. Describing the present international situation, A.A. Gromyko said: "Reykjavik showed that an agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States on reducing nuclear arms is possible. The peoples felt, if I can use such an expression, the breath [dykhaniye] of that agreement. The negotiations came up against a wall erected by the U.S. Administration, which has no wish to renounce its "Star Wars" program, or, in other words, the militarization of outer space.

"As for the Soviet Union, it is willing to destroy nuclear weapons, and willing to move toward this objective stage by stage while observing the need for equal security of the two sides. The Soviet Union is not striving for unilateral advantage."

I. Bengtsson: We in Sweden welcomed the Soviet moratorium on nuclear explosions and had an understanding attitude toward the resumption of nuclear tests in the USSR.

A.A. Gromyko: We could act no other way. Making the moratorium permanent would have meant giving the United States the opportunity of obtaining a unilateral advantage.

I. Bengtsson: Do you consider the speediest solution of the question of the delimitation of the Baltic Sea to be possible?

A.A. Gromyko: We are prepared to continue the talks begun earlier. Our countries are good neighbors and the comparatively small strip of water that is the Baltic Sea is in no way an obstacle to our exchange of handshakes.

I. Nordberg (leader of the Social Democratic Workers Party of the Swedish parliamentary group): Do you not consider it possible for a meeting on the question of combating the pollution of the Baltic Sea to be held at the level of ministers for questions of environmental conservation?

A.A. Gromyko: Our attitude toward the solution of the question of combating the pollution of the Baltic Sea is very positive. We in the Soviet Union are doing a very great deal to ensure that the environment remains clean. That also applies to our internal rivers and water expanses. But that does not mean that we can slacken our attention toward those waters which are international. We are in favor of discussing this important question, including, if necessary, at the ministerial level by agreement by the sides.

I. Bengtsson: Do you consider that a more active approach on the international level in the sphere of utilizing nuclear power for peaceful purposes is important?

A.A. Gromyko, in answer to this question, spoke in detail of the USSR's efforts to extent international cooperation in the area of the peaceful use of atomic power, including within the framework of the IAEA. We advocate, he said, the use of the IAEA in all its power for these purposes.

I. Bengtsson: We know that between NATO and the Warsaw Pact there have been some points of contact. We would like to have more detailed information about this.

A.A. Gromyko: Yes, the Warsaw Pact member-states have submitted a proposal to the NATO states to eliminate the two military groups that confront each other in Europe. But in diplomacy it is well-known that when someone wants to put an issue on ice, they say that it has to be carefully thought out, considered, studied, and so on. It is precisely in this way that the governments of the NATO countries respond to our proposal. They have already been "studying" it for many years.

I. Bengtsson: We were in Belorussia and visited plants, kolkhozes, and schools there. I visited the USSR 15 years ago and I have now been convinced that it has made considerable progress.

On the Swedish side special interest has been given to the resolutions of the January 1987 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, to the way that the process of restructuring its taking place in the Soviet Union. As the head of the delegation noted, in Sweden the transformations taking place in the Land of the Soviets is being followed with great attention.

A.A. Gromyko acquainted the Riksdag deputies with the substance of the January plenum decisions and noted that they were a powerful stimulus for the restructuring and accelerated development of Soviet society. In this regard, he emphasized that restructuring is further confirmation of Soviet peaceful intentions and of the USSR's pricipled course in favor of the peaceful coexistence of states with different social systems.

Problems relating to bilateral cooperation between the USSR and Sweden were also touched upon in the course of the conversation. In particular there was confirmation of the adherence to an implementation of the accords that were achieved during the official visit to the USSR by Ingvar Carlsson, the Swedish prime minister. On behalf of the Soviet leadership, it was staed that the USSR regards Soviet-Swedish relatins as friendly and good-neighborly. The Soviet Union intends to continue promoting their development.

The conversation passed in a businesslike atmosphere of goodwill.

Present from the Soviet side were alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium First Vice President Petr Demichev, Chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities of the USSR Supreme Soviet Avgust Voss, Secretary of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium Tengez Menteshashvili, and USSR Supreme Soviet Deputy M.S. Lichuzhkin; from the Swedish side -- Seond Deputy Chairman of the Riksdag Karl Erik Eriksson, deputies of the Riksdag, officials accompanying the Swedish parliamentary delegation, and the Swedish Ambassador in the USSR Anders Thunborg.

Also today a meeting with the Swedish members of parliament was held at the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Questions of bilateral relations as well as some international problems were discussed. The sides exchanged information on the structure and main directions of activity of the parliaments of the two countries.

A luncheon in honor of the delegation was held in the name of the chairmen of the two chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

Delegation Holds News Conference

LD272045 Moscow TASS in English 1759 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 27 TASS -- The changes now in progress in the Soviet Union can have only a positive impact on relations between the USSR and Sweden, it was stated by the chairman of the Swedish Riksdag (Parliament) Ingemund Bengtsson, who heads a Swedish parliamentary delegation now staying in the USSR.

Ingemund Bengtsson today spoke at a press conference for Soviet and Swedish journalists at the Swedish Embassy in Moscow.

Goodneighbourly and friendly relations exist between our countries for a long time already, he said. In the course of the conversations and discussions during the delegation's visit it has become clear that on major international issues we do not have big differences. It can be said that our views on them on the whole coincide. For various reasons there had been a strain in Soviet-Swedish relations during a certain period. Now these relations are quite normal, Ingemund Bengtsson said.

If problems exist between countries their representatives should meet and conduct discussions. This is why visits like the one by our delegation are of much importance, the chairman of the Swedish Riksdag said.

The transformations in the economic field that are being carried out in the Soviet Union may result in an increase of our mutual trade and this in turn will have a favourable influence on bilateral relations as a whole. We positively assess the current transformations in your country. The restructuring in the USSR can certainly be called a step in the right direction, Ingemund Bengtsson said.

Our visit confirmed the importance of diverse and regular contacts between the two countries, the chairman of the Riksdag said in conclusion. Sweden steers a course of nonalignment and political neutrality and for this reason is interested in maintaining good relations with all countries, including with its neighbours.

The delegation is paying an official visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet. The Swedish members of parliament are returning home tomorrow.

Parliamentary Group Departs

LD281106 Moscow TASS in English 1041 GMT 28 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 28 TASS -- The Swedish Riksdag delegation led by the Riksdag's speaker Ingemund Bengtsson, left the Soviet Union today at the close of an official visit here at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet (Parliament).

GORBACHEV ADDS TO SWEDISH PAPER DEDICATED TO PALME

LD011658 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1505 GMT 1 Mar 87

["In Memory of a Prominent Man" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Stockholm, 1 Mar (TASS) -- The Swedish trade union newspaper AFTONBLADET today issued a special edition dedicated to the memory of O. Palme, in connection with the anniversary of the tragic death of the prominent state and political figure and prime minister of Sweden. Materials and articles on the pages of the newspaper appear under the general heading "The Heritage, Bequeathed by Olof Palme to Sweden and the Whole World." Among them is the reply from M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to Rolf Alsing, chief editor of AFTONBLADET. The Soviet leader responded to the newspaper's request and answered the following questions: How should we appraise the role of O. Palme? Did his ideas and personality have a strong influence? What does his death mean to you and to the world as a whole?

M.S. Gorbachev's reply, in Russian and Swedish, says:

"Esteemed R. Alsing,

"The questions put to me by the editorial board of the paper AFTONBLADET are interconnected. I shall, therefore, try to answer all three together.

"The role of any individual or politician most precisely is determined by history. Time is the best judge; within its flow, some ideas and acts disappear without trade from people's memories, while others acquire immortality. The name of Olof Palme is widely known in different countries and on all continents, and it cannot, and must not, be forgotten.

"His activities and the passion and conviction with which he championed his views -- whether it was mediation in settling local conflicts, or activities within the framework of the Delhi Six, or his work as chairman of the Commission on Disarmament and Security -- earned him the profound respect of the international public.

"Over the past few years there has not been a major international event to which Olof Palme did not respond. From our correspondence I know that he welcomed the program for eliminating nuclear weapons submitted by the Soviet Union, our moratorium on nuclear explosions, and that he was willing to discuss these and other issues related to arms reduction. He frequently stressed that peace issues are acquiring unique significance in the current age when the whole of civilization could be annihilated once and for all as a result of thoughtless actions by man.

"The murderer's bullet destroyed a selfless fighter. The life of a man was cut short for whose opinion we, like many others in the world, had respect, in whom we met an objective partner in negotiations, with whom we shared an interest in making life on our planet safer, and who was a convinced supporter of the development of good-neighborly relations between Sweden and the USSR.

"Yes indeed, as Communists and Social Democrats, we frequently occupy different and sometimes opposite positions in ideology and politics. But at their 27th congress, Soviet Communists honored the memory of a Social Democrat and comrade-in-arms in the struggle for a peaceful future for mankind, with a sorrowful -- and I would say -- an indignant silence.

"Today there is no task more important than strengthening peace on earth. The Soviet Union is doing everything possible to avert from mankind the threat of a nuclear catastrophe and to confirm the atmosphere of trust and mutual understanding between people. Indeed, it is this that we have been striving for in Geneva and in Reykjavik. Indeed, this is why we confirm our readiness to reach agreements on all aspects of disarmament.

"At this time, when the first anniversary of the death of Palme is being marked, Soviet people, together with the Swedish people and with everyone in the world who holds dear the fate of the planet, pay a tribute of respect to Olof Palme."

[Signed] M. Gorbachev.

Many state, political and public figures from a number of other countries also speak on the newspaper's pages about the great contribution of the late head of the Swedish Government to the cause of strengthening international peace and mutual understanding, to the struggle against the nuclear threat, violence and racial oppression, and about his outstanding qualities as a politician and as a person. Among them are Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, O. Palme's comrade-in-arms in the "Delhi Six," Finnish President Mauno Koivisto, world famous Greek composer Mikis Theodorakis, Norway's Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, and U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy, who were linked with the late prime minister by many years of relations of personal friendship. The common thought which they express on the newspaper's pages is that the struggle for peace and international security, for the prevention of a world thermonuclear catastrophe and against racism and violence in all their manifestations -- to which O. Palme gave so much strength and energy -- must be continued. That will be the best memorial to the outstanding political and state figure of Sweden.

SWEDISH PREMIER'S MESSAGE ON 'DIRECT DIALOGUE'

LD061229 Moscow TASS in English 1210 GMT 6 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 6 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., today received a special envoy of Prime Minister Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden, Pierre Schori, secretary-general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, who conveyed to him a message from the head of the Swedish Government.

Nikolay Ryzhkov expressed gratitude for the message which the Soviet side regards as fresh proof of the development of the practice of direct dialogue in different forms between the leadership of Sweden and the Soviet Union -- the practice which received a new impetus as a result of Ingvar Carlsson's official visit to Moscow last year.

During the meeting Nikolay Ryzhkov drew special attention of the Swedish side to the new Soviet initiative aiming for the elimination of medium-range missiles in Europe -- the initiative that embodied a new way of thinking of the Soviet leadership on security and disarmament matters and a sense of lofty responsibility for the search for ways to resolve the problem of nuclear arms reduction and their subsequent elimination.

The hope was expressed that the situation taking shape at present would be seriously considered in Europe and that the unique possibilty would be used to ensure that the European Continent would no longer be regarded as a potential theater of a nuclear war. In that context a positive appraisal of that major Soviet step by the prime minister of Sweden was met with satisfaction in the U.S.S.R.

Nikolay Ryzhkov and Pierre Schori considered certain matters of mutual interest related to Soviet-Swedish relations in the spirit of mutual understanding and trust. Nikolay Ryzhkov reaffirmed the Soviet Union's unswerving line toward the development of goodneighborly Soviet-Swedish relations for the good of the peoples of both countries, for the benefit of European and universal peace.

OFFICIALS RECEIVE VISITING PSOE DELEGATION

Talks With Yakovlev

LD031233 Moscow TASS in English 1200 GMT 3 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 3 TASS -- Aleksandr Yakovlev, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Commitee, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting today with a delegation of the Spanish Socialist Labour Party [PSOE] which included Members of the Executive Commission of the party, Secretaries of the Federal Committee of the party Guillermo Galeote, Elena Flores, F. Marugana and J. Corcuera.

During the conversation attended by Vadim Zagladin, member of the CPSU Central Committee, they exchanged views in a friendly manner on a number of problems connected with the international situation and the situation in Europe. They also touched upon questions dealing with the development of relations between the CPSU and the Spanish Socialist Labour Party. The sides expressed satisfaction over the progress achieved in relations between the USSR and Spain and went on record in favour of their further development.

Spanish comrades expressed high appreciation of the new Soviet peace initiative aimed at the elimination of medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe which had been put forward in the statement of Mikhail Gorbachev of February 28. The Soviet side reiterated the firm intention of the CPSU to work for a radical turn for the better in the world situation and to advance towards a nuclear-free and safe world.

Dobrynin, Zagladin Meeting

LD022042 Moscow TASS in English 2031 GMT 2 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow March 2 TASS -- Anatoliy Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Vadim Zagladin, first deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, had a meeting with a delegation of the Spanish Socialist Labor Party (SSLP) at the CPSU Central Committee today.

The delegation includes G. Galeote (head of the delegation), a member of the SSLP Executive committee, secretary of the party's Federal Committee for Propaganda, El. Flores, a member of the SSLP Executive Committee, secretary of the party's Federal Committee for International Affairs, F. Marugan, a member of the SSLP Executive Committee, secretary of the party's Federal Committee for Economic and Social Affairs, J. Corcuer, a member of the SSLP Executive Committee, secretary for contacts with the trade unions.

During the meeting the sides had a detailed exchange of views on topical issues related to the work for peace, detente and disarmament, on major problems of the international situation and the situation in Europe and the Mediterranean region, on the development of relations between the CPSU and the Spanish Socialist Labor Party, between the Soviet Union and Spain.

The representatives of the two parties informed each other of the situation in their respective countries.

Both sides favored further development of political, commercial, economic, scientific, technical and cultural ties between the Soviet Union and Spain.

They reaffirmed the desire of the CPSU and the SSLP to continue and deepen inter-party contacts for the benefit of detente, stronger peace, goodneighborly relations and equitable cooperation.

The meeting passed in a friendly atmosphere.

'JOINT COMMUNIQUE' ON UK COMMUNIST PARTY VISIT

LD261934 Moscow TASS in English 1912 GMT 26 Feb 87

[Text] Moscow February 26 TASS -- On February 25, 1987 a meeting took place at the Central Committee of the CPSU between representatives of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of Great Britain.

Participants from the CPSU were A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CC CPSU and V.V. Zagladin, member, CC CPSU, first deputy-head, International Department, CC CPSU, first deputy-head, International Department, CC CPSU.

Gordon McLennan, general secretary, and Gerry Pocock, head of International Department, represented the CPGB.

Joint Communique of the Representatives of the CPSU and CPGB.

The representatives of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of Great Britain discussed the international situation and the prospects for disarmament following the meeting in Reykjavik between General Secretary Gorbachev and President Reagan.

Preventing a nuclear war is the supreme issue before humanity. The Communist Parties of the Soviet Union and Great Britain recognise the great responsibility the peoples of both countries have in the present dangerous an complicated world situation.

A special responsibility for ending the arms race and the threat of nuclear war lay with the five nuclear weapons powers. Cooperation between the Soviet Union and Great Britain could make an important contribution to disarmament.

Both parties believe that the programme for achieving world-wide nuclear disarmament before the end of the century, put forward by the Soviet Union on January 15, 1986, is a realisable one. But there are militaristic forces in the world which are doing their utmost to sabotage any steps towards achieving it.

It is these forces, influential in the United States and also in Britain, which have thwarted initiatives aimed at reducing international tension and ending the arms race. They refused to respond to the unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests operated by the Soviet Union. They were responsible for dashing the high hopes aroused by the Reykjavik meeting and discussions there on reducing, and then eliminating nuclear weapons.

The CPSU and CPGB are in favour of the implementation of the proposals put forward by the Soviet Union in Reykjavik.

British communists are active participants in the peace movement in Britain which campaigns for unilateral nuclear disarmament by Britain, the closure of U.S. bases and the immediate removal of cruise missiles.

The unilateral moratorium on nuclear weapons tests by the Soviet Union responded to the appeals voiced by peoples and peace movements throughout the world. There is an urgent need for intensified campaigning on testing in order to bring about a complete ban.

Mikhail Gorbachev declared in his talks with a British parliamentary delegation in May 1986 that if Britain officially decides to scrap its nuclear weapons, the Soviet Union will be prepared to reduce its nuclear potential accordingly, and that if Britain simultaneously removes foreign nuclear weapons from its territory, the Soviet Union will guarantee that its nuclear weapons will not be targeted at British territory and will never be used against Britain.

Such steps by our two countries would be a major contribution to peace and disarmament.

Agreement between Britain and the Soviet Union on opposition to any undermining of the ABM treaty would also be of great significance. The U.S. plans for speeding up the development of the SDI (Star Wars) threaten the world with an even more dangerous escalation of the arms race to outer space, and the development of new weapons of mass destruction.

The nuclear arms race imposes enormous economic burdens on the peoples of the world, both in the advance and the underdeveloped countries. Ending it would free great resources for constructive purposes and the raising of living standards.

The Soviet Union is engaged in a revolutionary programme of reorganisation and democratisation with a view to developing the full potential of socialism. The CPGB delegation stated that this process is being watched with interest and sympathy by communists, socialists and progressive people throughout the world. Such a programme requires for its speedy fulfilment peace and international cooperation.

An important step in this direction will be made when communists and other progressive forces the world over will join with Soviet communists and people in celebrating the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution.

The British people would also benefit greatly from an end to the arms race and the diversion of resources to building the homes, schools and hospitals which are so urgently needed, combatting unemployment and improving the quality of life.

Although the USSR and Great Britain have different social systems, the view shared by both delegations is that this should not be an obstacle to cooperation, friendship and trade between them. It is an historical fact that whenever our two countries have stood together things have gone well for our peoples and for the cause of progress, as was shown during the Second World War and on other occasions since. The cooperation of our two peoples could be a vital factor in overcoming the threat of nuclear destruction facing humanity.

'CONSTRUCTIVE' TALKS WITH ITALIAN BANKERS

LD091846 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1756 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, 9 Mar (TASS) -- Viktor Dementsev, chairman of the board of the USSR State Bank, today received N. Nesi, president of the largest Italian commercial bank, the "Banca Nazionale del Lavoro," who is in the USSR in connection with the opening of a branch of this bank in Moscow, attached to the USSR State Bank. Their conversation, which passed in a businesslike and constructive atmosphere, covered questions concerned with the further development of trade, economic, foreign currency and financial relations between the USSR and Italy.

'RUSSIAN HOUSE' REOPENING BOOSTS FRG TIES

LD100726 Moscow TASS in English 0640 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Cologne March 10 TASS -- Economic relations and cultural ties between West Germany and the USSR received further boost with the reopening of the "Russian House" in Cologne on Monday.

The house, which is a sort of a club, groups representatives of a wide range of West German enterprises and firms. The "Russian House" will closely cooperate with Soviet institutions in West Germany. Its activities aim to give a better insight into the economic development of the USSR and latest achievements of Soviet science and technology. Paramount importance will be attached to specialised exhibitions and scientific seminars involving representatives of business circles and scientists from the USSR and West Germany.

IRAN'S REJECTION OF PEACE PROPOSALS CONDEMNED

NC061341 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian to Iran 1630 GMT 4 Mar 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] UN Secretary General Perez de Cuellar has called for an end to the war between Iran and Iraq, and in a bid to end this destructive conflict and prevent it from spreading, he referred to both countries, but primarily to Iran.

This call reconfirms the concern felt by the most divergent strata of the world on the continuation of bloodshed on the Iran-Iraq front. The reciprocal and pitiless massacre that is taking place on a vast scale between the two neighbors is completely meaningless as far as the true national interests of the warring sides are concerned. According to figures published by world news agencies, during the offensives carried out by Iran during the past 3 months between 30,000-50,000 Iranians were killed, most of whom were not more than 14 years old. The Iraqi side too has suffered great losses of course; nevertheless, the Iranian command has not achieved any of the strategic objectives that it had specified.

The re-exacerbation of the war, like the entire course of the war, only stresses the fact that military means cannot bring a solution to the Iran-Iraq conflict even an inch nearer. On the contrary, they can delay a solution. War means an impasse and the intensification of the calamities faced by the Iranian and Iraqi peoples. However,this war is a true gift for Israeli Zionism and U.S. imperialism, the common enemies of Iran and Iraq. Only Tel Aviv and Washington are overjoyed with the idea that as long as the fires of war continue to burn near Basra, in the Al-Faw marshes, on the Kurdistan mountains, or in any other part of the Iran-Iraq war, the confrontation with Israel's aggressions against the Arabs is weakened and a crushing blow cannot be given to U.S. machinations in the Near and Middle East. It is especially because of this that the enemies of Iran and Iraq are trying, at any cost, to protract this conflict or, as put by a U.S. journalist, to perpetuate it. It was because it pursued this objective that the United States, while falsely portraying itself as impartial in this war, resorted to the secret sale of arms to Iran. It was because of this that Washington placed spying information at the disposal of Tehran and Baghdad, information which, when studied, proved to be false and aimed solely at sparking off new clashes on the front.

Meanwhile, all the sincere friends of Iran and Iraq believe that there are no serious obstacles to ending the war and establishing peace. The Soviet public firmly believes that the important thing for both sides is to display a political determination and sagacity in the wish to reach a mutually-acceptable agreement and take into consideration the legal rights of both Iran and Iraq. One should look at the future and forget the past. Certain hopes emerged with the call by Saddam Husayn, the Iraqi leader, to the Iranian leadership on signing a just, respectable, and lasting peace. This call was first made on 2 August 1986 and repeated early this month. The principles of this peace are the complete and unconditional withdrawal of troops to internationally recognized borders, a complete exchange of POW's, the signing of a peace and nonaggression treaty, nonintervention in each other's affairs, and the turning of Iran and Iraq into positive elements in the establishment and preservation of stability and security in the Near East and Persian Gulf. However, these hopes were not fulfilled, as Tehran did not react positively to this proposal.

Tehran pays no attention to the repeated efforts for mediation by the United Nations, the Nonaligned Movement, the Islamic Conference Organization, and other international organizations. The Iranian leadership is sending more and more fresh troops to battle for what it describes as the ultimate destiny-making blow. Blood is shed once again and the number of deaths on both sides are increased greatly.

The deaths and calamities faced by the Iranian and Iraqi peoples once again turn the attention of all good-willed persons to the need to completely eradicate dangerous armed conflicts in the Middle East. The cease-fire that the UN secretary general has once again called for can be the first step toward this end.

'Anti-Afghan' Policy Assailed

NC091339 Moscow Radio Peace and Progress in Persian 1630 GMT 8 Mar 87

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] There are facts to prove that the trend of national reconciliation in Afghanistan is continuing on a large scale. Meanwhile, enemies of the April revolution are not sitting idly by. The Government of Afghanistan has repeatedly called on the Iranian Government, urging it to assist those Afghans who want to return to their homeland. A joint message from the Supreme Extraordinary Committee for National Reconciliation in Afghanistan, the Fatherland Front, the Revolutionary Council, and the DRA Cabinet to the leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Khomeyni, expresses hopes that the Iranian brothers will facilitate the return of Afghans to their homeland. The Iranian officials have not given an official reply to this sincere and very painful call by Afghanistan; and the despatch of insurgents from Iranian territory to wage armed struggle against the Afghan people continues unabated.

Specific circles in Iran can fairly be included on the list of those trying to thwart the trend of national reconciliation in Afghanistan. These circles are doing their utmost to prevent the return of Afghan refugees to their homes. An anti-Afghan propaganda campaign has begun in Iran. In answer to the peace-seeking and friendly message of the Afghan people, various provocative meetings and other activities involving the participation of leaders of counterrevolutionary bands ensconced in Iran are being organized. Some time ago a so-called roundtable discussion was held in an Iranian city, attended by some Iranian ministers and Afghan counterrevolutionaries. Such meetings also took place in the past, with the objective of uniting divided counterrevolutionaries in the fight against revolutionary Afghanistan. It should be especially noted that President Reagan has repeatedly granted audiences in the White House to Afghan counterrevolutionary leaders, namely those who today sit at the same table with Iranian ministers.

Regarding the Irangate scandal that has afflicted the White House, we want to point out that anti-Afghan insurgents are primarily armed with modern U.S. weapons. Apparently the Iranian ruling circles and their security and information organizations are very well aware that these arms are placed at the disposal of insurgent bands, especially those based in Iranian territory. Many of these bands test these arms on the Iran-Iraq front. Those Afghan bands not involved in killing in Afghanistan and so-called training on the Iran-Iraq front test their U.S. weapons on the Iranian population, murdering and plundering.

COMPARISON OF ETHIOPIA'S TESFAYE ALIYEV MEETING

Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian on 7 March 1987 carries in its Morning Edition on page 4 a TASS report on the meeting between Lieutenant General Gebre Kidan Tesfaye, member of the Worker's Party of Ethiopia Central Committee Political Bureau and G.A. Aliyev. The IZVESTIYA report, entitled "Meeting in the Kremlin," has been compared with the Moscow Domestic Service Russian version published in the 9 March Soviet Union DAILY REPORT, page J 2, revealing the following variations:

Paragraph two, line three, IZVESTIYA reads: and economic acceleration, deepening the process of Soviet society's democratization, and improving international relations on the basis of new political thinking. The attention of [inserting additional passage]

From paragraph two, last line, IZVESTIYA reads: survival of mankind.

For his part, Gebre Kidan Tesfaye spoke of the process of state building in Ethiopia and the results of the nationwide referendum on the adoption of the Constitution, and described other measures by the Workers Party of Ethiopia in connection with preparations to proclaim a people's democratic republic.

The Ethiopian minister [inserting additional paragraph, picking up paragraph three, line one]

MOSCOW TV: GHANA ENVOY'S NATIONAL DAY ADDRESS

LD070012 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 6 Mar 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] Today the people of the Republic of Ghana are marking their national holiday. Independence Day. Taking part in our broadcast is John Kofi Tettegah, Ghana's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the USSR:

[Begin Kofi Tettegah recording in English with superimposed Russian translation] I would like first of all to thank the Soviet authorities for according me the opportunity once again to address a few words to the friendly people of the Soviet on the occasion of the 30th anniversary [preceding words audible in English] of Ghana's independence. This address is a bright display of the strong ties of friendship that have always existed between our two countries. These friendly relations were given a powerful boost in December of last year in Moscow, when the USSR-Ghana Friendship Society was officially founded. Thirty years is a relatively short time in the life of a people, but over these years Ghana has lived through more than a few crisis situations. By December, 1981, a sharp economic and social recession could be seen in Ghana and only the intervention of the Provisional National Defense Council saved the country from a possible catastrophe. The government successfully looked for ways for laying a foundation for true democracy and independence, and economic prosperity for our people.

Ghana invariably considers Africa as a cornerstone in its foreign policy. We support relations of goodneighborliness and cooperation with other African countries, within the Organization for African Unity. Being a member of the OAU liberation committee Ghana renders material and moral assistance to the freedom fighters of South Africa, who are battling against apartheid and the unlawful occupation of Namibia.

Ghana is convinced that the world community must bear responsibility in the cause of rendering assistance to eradicate apartheid, using all possible means, including the introduction of all-embracing economic sanctions. In this regard we recall with gratitude and thanks the aid the Soviet Union renders to the national liberation movement in Africa and other parts of the world.

In the international arena Ghana remains an active member of the Nonaligned Movement, and the United Nations, to whose aims in securing worldwide peace and security we are fully attached. Ghana also fully supports the recent Soviet peace initiatives. We call upon all peace-loving countries in the world to accept and implement the Soviet proposals, that will help in releasing huge resources used on lethal armaments and directing them toward improving the material living conditions of mankind. In conclusion I should like to express the gratitude of the governments and people of Ghana for the friendly aid given by the Soviet Union that has made a significant contribution to the development of our country. Ghana and the Soviet Union have common points of view on a number of issues. The friendship and cooperation between our countries are at a high level in political, economic and social spheres. Ghana is prepared to cooperate with the Soviet Union in the cause of further strengthening the harmonious ties of friendship between our two countries for the common good of our peoples.

GHANA'S RAWLINGS RECEIVES SONGAYLA DELEGATION

PM100853 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Mar 87 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation Received"]

[Text] Accra, 6 Mar -- J. Rawlings, chairman of Ghana's Provincial National Defense Council, received on Thursday [5 March] the USSR delegation headed by R. -B.I. Songayla, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, which has arrived there to take part in events to mark the 30th anniversary of the proclamation of Ghana's independence. Both sides expressed interest in the strengthening and development of friendly relations between the two countries' peoples.

MOSCOW REPORTS GEN LIZICHEV'S VISIT TO CUBA

Departs for Cuba

PM081721 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 3 Mar 87 First Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Visit to Cuba"]

[Text] On 1 March Army General A.D. Lizichev, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate and his party left Moscow for Havana for a working visit at the invitation of Army General Raul Castro, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of the Republic of Cuba.

Army General A.D. Lizichev was seen off at the airport by Admiral A.I. Sorokin first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; Colonel General V.S. Nechayev and Colonel General D.A. Volkonogov, deputy chiefs of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and other officials.

Also in the send-off party were R. Ruiz Vergara, counsellor at the Cuban embassy in the Soviet Union, and Colonel R.E. Marrero Gomez, military, naval, and air attache.

Meets With Raul Castro

LD071411 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1130 GMT 7 Mar 87

[From the "Novosti" newscast; announcer-read report]

[Text] A meeting was held in Havana yesterday between Army General Raul Castro, minister of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Cuba, and Army General Lizichev, chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy, who was on a working visit to Cuba. During their conversation, which took place in an atmosphere of fraternity and full mutual understanding, matters relating to the further strengthening of combat cooperation between the Armies and Navies of the Soviet Union and the Republic of Cuba were discussed.

On the same day Army General Lizichev left for home.

Cuban Reportage on Visit

For Cuban reportage on the visit to Cuba of Army General Aleksey Dmitriyevich Lizichev, member of the CPSU Central Committee and chief of the Main Political Directorate of the Army and Navy, see the 3 March Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

NICARAGUANS READY TO DEFEND, 'ARMS IN HAND'

LD100814 Moscow TASS in English 0715 GMT 10 Mar 87

[Text] Managua March 10 TASS -- President Daniel Ortega of Nicaragua said in Managua Monday that the Nicaraguan people was determined to defend arms in hand their independence, national sovereignty and freedom.

Simultaneously, he underlined Nicaragua's readiness to develop friendly ties with all states on the basis of mutual respect for the principles of self-determination, independence and non-interference in each other's affairs.

In their attempts to strangle the Sandinist people's revolution, the Reagan administration goes ahead with its interventionist policy towards the republic, Ortega said. This policy stems from the neo-colonialist essence of U.S. imperialism which refuses to recognize the independence of Nicaragua and other central American nations.

The Nicaraguan leader stressed that any reconciliation or a political dialogue with the counter-revolutionaries was impossible. The only way out for them is voluntarily to lay down arms and make use of the amnesty law adopted by the revolutionary government, Ortega said.

NICARAGUA'S D'ESCOTO ON CONTADORA GROUP PROPOSALS

LD070103 Moscow TASS in English 0009 GMT 7 Mar 87

[Text] Caracas March 6 TASS — The implementation of the constructive proposals of the Contadora Group which seeks to settle the conflict in Central America with the help of talks is the only way to the restoration of peace in the region. This has been stated in an interview with the local newspaper NACIONAL by Miguel d'Escoto, minister of foreign affairs of Nicaragua. According to Miguel d'Escoto, the Contadora Group which includes Venezuela, Colombia, Mexico and Panama, is a vivid example of solidarity of Latin America countries. Its principles based on the awareness of the fact that a threat to the sovereighty of any of the Latin America countries means a threat to the whole of the region deserve all-round approval.

'PROVOCATIVE' NAVY PATROL BEYOND CHILEAN WATERS

PY061344 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2130 GMT 27 Feb 87

[Text] According to press reports from Santiago, the Chilean Navy, commanded by Admiral Jose Toribio Merino, reportedly is conducting provocative patrol operations beyond Chilean waters to watch over the fishing vessels of several countries which are carrying out normal fishing activities in that area.

According to the official press agency ORBE, there are about 30 fishing vessels from the Soviet Union and from other socialist countries operating in that area. The propagandistic manipulation by the Chilean press about normal fishing activities and the threatening air-sea patrol operations at the boundary of Chilean and international waters could mean dangerous provocations by the fascist regime.

GROMYKO CHAIRS SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM SESSION

LD171729 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 17 Feb 87

[Text] A session of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, chaired by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, was held in the Kremlin today.

The participants in the session expressed deep satisfaction with the outcome of the work of the January 1987 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, which examined -- taking into consideration the wide sociopolitical background -- urgent issues of restructuring and cadres policy. They noted that the decisions of the January CPSU Central Committee plenum are of exceptional importance for the councils of people's deputies at all levels. The urgent tasks regarding the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development, further democratization of all areas of public life, deepening of the people's socialist self-management, and widening of glasnost, which were brought to the fore by the party, require considerable improvements in the activities of the bodies of the people's power.

The Presidium discussed the work of the soviets of people's deputies of Tajikistan on utilizing local possibilities for increasing output, raising the quality of foodstuffs, and improving supplies to the population in light of the requirements of the 27th CPSU Congress.

The matter of citizens' applications to the USSR Supreme Soviet was also examined. It was noted that citizens' applications testify to the Soviet people's firm support for the course of the party and government toward restructuring. Citizens respond widely to events in the country and abroad, and totally support the USSR's peace-loving policy. The decision that was made outlines measures directed toward further improving work on examining citizens' applications and organizing the receiving of the population.

The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium also examined certain other matters in the country's state life.

Taking part in the discussion of the items on the agenda were Comrades Demichev, Yeltsin, Slyunkov, Solovyev, and other participants in the session.

GROMYKO TOURS NOVGOROD ELECTRONICS PLANT, SOVKHOZ

LD092210 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 9 Mar 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast, report by correspondents L. Elin, and D. Khavin]

[Text] Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko is in Novgorod:

Novogorod -- The history of this ancient Russian town goes back more than 11 centuries. Novgorod today is a major center of the chemical, instrument-making, and radio electronic industries in the northwest of our country. Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko visited the Kompleks Scientific and Production Association. Transformers, as well as units and subassemblies for household radio and electronic equipment are designed and produced here. Last year, the workforce completely fulfilled all its contractual obligations.

In the shops of the association, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko became familiar with how modern technological processes and technical robot complexes are introduced into production. After all, this is only the beginning: The range of goods produced here is to be updated by almost 100 percent during the 12th 5-year plan. It is a very complicated task. More attention should also be paid to the production of consumer goods and this also was discussed. The enterprise is preparing itself for going over to the two- and three-shift work pattern.

Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko emphasized, in particular, that welfare issues connected with this difficult undertaking must be resolved in good time.

In accordance with the social development plan, the workforce builds a great deal; moreover, a majority of houses are built using the direct-labor method. Seven hundred families had their housing conditions improved during the past 5-year plan. However, an additiinal 1,250 people are still on the waiting lists. The enterprise has its own leisure center and Pioneer camps but, for the time being at least, there are not enough places vacant for everyone here.

During the second half of the day, Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko arrived in the (Chichulino) settlement, at the central farmstead of the Novgorodskiy Sovkhoz. A 10-year school, a kindergarten, and an out-patient clinic are situated here. The guest was shown the House of Culture, which boasts a large audience hall, a sports and dance hall, and a library many town dwellers could covet. Andrey Andreyevich Gromyko has had a meeting with the rural soviet deputies. They spoke of the fact that even more must be built; moreover individual homes with adjoining plots, [doma usadebnogo tipa] should be built as well. Currently, their number will no longer suffice; after all, the volume of agricultural output is constantly growing. The rearing and fattening of livestock will have to be done on a modern industrial basis. Several years ago, farms that were lagging behind were joined with this sovkhoz and over a brief period of time the Novgorodskiy specialists succeeded in trebling grain crop yields there. Milk yields were doubled. All this is the result of high production culture, and the smooth work of the collective, which was led from the very inception by Aleksandr Nikolayevich Tsarev.

Comrade Gromyko acquainted himself with the conditions of work and leisure of livestock breeders.

LIGACHEV VISITS SARATOV OBLAST 1-5 MARCH

PM071843 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Mar 87 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "The High Quality of Everyone's Work Is the Key to Success"]

[Text] Saratov, 5 Mar -- Saratov Oblast is a major industrial and agricultural region with developed science and culture. Under the party organization's leadership last year the oblast's working people successfully fulfilled the plans for industrial production, state purchases of livestock products, and construction of housing and other sociocultural projects.

However, when assessing the state of affairs from the positions of the requirements of the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum, it cannot fail to be seen that far from full use is being made of the production potential created in the oblast.

How is real progress to be made in intensifying the economy, developing the social sphere, and creating conditions for the broad democratization of social life? These are very important tasks for the oblast party organization. They determine the work pace and rhythm of every labor collective and all inhabitants of Saratov Oblast. The course of restructuring, people's attitude to it, and the ensuring of real results in accelerating socioeconomic development were at the center of working people's meetings and talks with Ye.K. Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, who visited Saratov Oblast 1-5 March.

Special attention was paid to the work of railroad transport, which plays an important role in the normal functioning of the country's economy. The interruptions caused by snowdrifts on railraods in January and February of this year gradually are being overcome. Unfortunately, the Volga Railroad is still among the laggards: There the freight train schedule is very often violated. During the 2 months the lag in national economic freight shipments totaled more than 1 million metric tons. What are the reasons? They were named in collectives. Train speeds on the railroad are low, and track modernization and construction of second tracks are being conducted extremely slowly. Rolling stock is being repaired unsatisfactorily.

At the railroad administration there was a frank and principled discussion of the prospects for developing mainlines in the current 5-year plan and of measures to overcome laggardness. Ye.K. Ligachev drew the railroad leaders' attention to the need to fundamentally change the work style and methods and to enhance cadres' responsibility for the assigned task. Acceleration of scientific and technical progress is taking place throughout the country, but here manual labor still predominates in railroad stations and locomotive and car depots. Electric signaling, centralization, and the block system have been introduced on only half the length of the mainlines. What question can there be of acceleration in such a situation?

It is necessary to begin with the human factor, Ye.K. Ligachev pointed out. It is important to enhance people's activeness, develop democratic principles in the work of labor collectives, and ensure broad publicity in resolving urgent and acute questions. It is necessary to enhance the role of transport enterprises' primary party organizations and junction [uzlovoy] party committees and show more concern for people and for creating proper working, living, and leisure conditions for them.

When freeing workings in line with the Belorussian railroad workers' experience, they must be directed to other sectors, particularly to the construction of housing and sociocultural and consumer projects. The quality of housing construction must be seriously enhanced. What is needed is not just square meters but well-appointed modern apartments.

At Saratov Locomotive Depot there was a frank and confiding conversation with railroad veterans. They spoke of the continuity of the Soviet working class' best labor traditions, which are passed on to young people. The depot workers voiced serious complaints about the railroad leaders and the corresponding ministries because of shortcomings in the supply of spare parts, equipment, and diagnostic instruments. In our time it is no longer possible to work by eye alone. They made a number of suggestions to improve the quality of locomotive repairs and their operational reliability.

At the No 2 Motor Freight Transport Association the conversation turned to the need to switch to a two-and three-shift work system. The economic expediency of this promises greater profit. The truckers are planning to switch to two-shift work in the very near future. Here they voiced the fear that the "rear services" -- consumer services, city transport, stores, and other enterprises and establishments -- might lag behind in this progressive undertaking. Local soviet organs must have their say here.

Analyzing the work of industry, Ye.K. Ligachev pointed out that here, too, there are still many unsolved problems. In 1986 more than one-fourth of industrial enterprises failed to meet their contractual pledges. In January and February of this year sales of output, taking deliveries under contract into account, amounted to just 96 percent. Industrial collectives must step up work. This lag is all the more intolerable because in Saratov and the oblast there are many enterprises which do not have complaints from suppliers.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary visited the Electric Unit Production Association, which produces domestic refrigerators. The collective of this robotized enterprise of a high production and technical standard has repeatedly advanced valuable initiatives in the sphere of technical progress. It is natural that it was right there that the conversation turned to the revival of the Saratov system of defect-free labor and immediate acceptance of high-qaulity output. Workers and specialists made many suggestions to accelerate its introduction.

Familiaring himself with the oblast party organization's activity in implementing the Food Program, Ye.K. Ligachev met with the workers of the "Engelsskiy" Sovkhoz. In conversations with workers, specialists, and leaders great attention was devoted to questions of introducing financial autonomy and the collective contract, reducing material and labor expenditure and the prime cost of livestock products, and improving profitability. It is no good, he pointed out, when loss-making dairy farms "eat up" a considerable proportion of the profit made in vegetable growing.

Noting the efforts being made by the leadership and party organization of the "Engelsskiy" Sovkhoz to improve rural workers' social and domestic conditions, Ye.K. Ligachev emphasized that stockmen's houses like that constructed on the farm must very soon be created on every kolkhoz in the oblast. A shift to the human factor and, above all, concern for improving people's working and living conditions are one of the most important directions in restructuring.

The Saratov Oblast inhabitants' contribution to the Food Program could be weightier, it was pointed out during the meetings and visits. It does not become grain growers to be debtors to the state in terms of purchases of grain, sunflowers, and other agricultural crops. The lost positions in production of durum and strong wheats -- the former pride of Saratov Oblast people -- are being restored only slowly. The chief task of obtaining the planned yield throughout the irrigated area has not been resolved. Capital investments in irrigated agriculture are not yielding the proper return. A growth trend has been noted in dairy livestock raising, but herd productivity remains low compared with other parts of the country.

Rural workers understand that economic management methods cannot be introduced without further democratizing management, extending workers' independence and initiative, and enhancing responsibility for the end results, not the interim results. At the same time, they validly raised the question of rayon agro-industrial association specialists' finally renouncing bureaucratic administration. [paragraph continues]

Instead of solving long-term development questions and helping farms, rayon agro-industrial associations frequently continue sending out numerous instructions and bind initiative and creativity hand and foot with petty tutelage.

On visiting the Saratov Dairy Combine, the CPSU Central Committee secretary inspected the dairy product processing lines. In conversation, emphasis was placed on the importance of deeper processing of livestock raw materials, of introducing waste-free technologies, extending the range of products, and improving their quality. Workers criticized the combine's leaders for the fact that they still have to do manual work in labor-intensive production sectors. At the combine there is more talk of the need to mechanize manual labor than action to do so. Questions of organizing the enterprise's work under the new management conditions and strengthening economic relations with kolkhozes and sovkhozes were examined in detail.

Ye.K. Ligachev made detailed inquiries about the state of trade and public catering. He met and talked with working people in the city's streets, in stores, and in the market. Saratov residents pointed out that more foodstuffs have appeared in the stores over the past year. Commission trade in meat products has been organized, but there is still a shortage of them in state stores.

Remarks and suggestions on improving trade in consumer goods were made. The city residents voiced just dissatisfaction with the fact that the range of industrial commodities in the stores is still small and there is a shortage of children's footwear, knitted outerwear, and fashionable clothes.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary had a meeting with the oblast's creative intelligentsia, at which directions of further raising the artistic and ideological standard of works of literature and art and improving the work of creative associations were examined.

The work which the party is doing for the revoluntionary transformation of the country's whole life, Ye.K. Ligachev said, is unprecedently great in terms of its consequences, scale, and complexity. Without you, without the participation of the creative intelligentsia, the tasks set by the 27th party congress and the CPSU Central Committee plenums simply cannot be resolved. This is why the party and the government devote great attention to the development of literature and art. The phenomena of stagnation and conservatism which appeared in the country's economy and social life in the late seventies also had an adverse effect on the state of literature and art. Of course, wholesale disparagement of everything is not permissible. Even at that time there were splendid works of literature and art which truthfully reflected glorious pages in our motherland's history, consolidated the positions of socialist realism, and developed its creative method. Those achievements should not be struck out. We ought not to be Ivans who do not remember their ancestry.

At its 27th congress and the Central Committee April and January plenums the party made a detailed analysis of the state of affairs in literature and art. Many shortcomings were revealed in the work of creative unions and organizations -- phenomena of red tape, factionalism, evasion of criticism, and lack of openness in work. Certain leaders of creative unions began to distance themselves from the creative milieu and tried to rise above it. Elements of mass bourgeois culture began to penetrate society, literature, and art. Elements of officiousness made themselves known in the style of leadership of party and state organs and in the sphere of spiritual life, and methods of persuasion and ideological influence were weakened.

The plenums of creative unions held since the 27th CPSU Congress have enlivened their activity, and the artistic intelligentsia is involved in restructuring and is actively helping the party in the spiritual improvement of our society. Meetings between M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the creative intelligentsia have become traditional. CPSU Central Committee secretaries meet with this audience. A whole series of resolutions has been adopted recently on strengthening the material and technical base of establishments, the activities of creative unions, and the development of fine art. The said documents instruct local party and soviet organs to examine questions of improving working and living conditions for the creative intelligentsia.

Creative unions have been granted great rights. This imposes a high responsibility. The broadening of independence in the activities of editorial and artistic councils must be accompanied by enhanced responsibility for the ideological and artistic quality of the works created -- this is the purport of restructuring in the sphere of literature and art.

The work of creative unions has become more active and fruitful, but the times demand more of them, they demand cardinal changes. Unfortunately, restructuring is not proceeding so smoothly here. The desire of certain creative workers to evade criticism still manifests itself. Broad publicity and further democratization are needed in this sphere. An atmosphere of competition among minds and talents must be created in every creative organization. The creative intelligentsia is the party's closest assistant in the cause of people's psychological restructuring. Materials on restructuring have already been published. They are chiefly journalistic works, but we also await an artistic interpretation of the changes occurring in society. There are also negative phenomena. Some of them were discussed at M.S. Gorbachev's meeting with leaders of the mass media, in which editors of literary and art journals also participated. Newspapers and journals have published many articles reflecting the mistakes of the past. Certain press organs stopped at that. However, to focus attention on one negative aspect is just part of the truth. There is another truth too. It consists, above all, in the fact that under the party's leadership our people accomplished the Great October Socialist Revolution, whose 70th anniversary we are preparing to celebrate, won the Great Patriotic War, built a socialist society, are successfully conducting creative work, and are struggling actively for peace throughout the world. The truth about achievements and contradictions must be complete.

The party has, on its own initiative, investigated everything that happened in the late seventies and early eighties and criticized negative phenomena in the country's economic and spiritual life. The truths spoken by the party has met with the people's profound support. Millions of Communists and nonparty people are actively involved in restructuring. It is necessary to promote positive phenomena in every possible way and support gains of new experience. For the time being, however, political thought is greatly outstripping the artistic word. In the creative milieu priority sometimes is given to the artistic side of the work, but ideological commitment must not be forgotten either. Both of these qualities must act together, otherwise harm to works cannot be avoided.

Many works that previously were unknown to the broad public for one reason or another recently have been published and shown. This is right, but exaggerated assessments sometimes are made, and in some places the names of artists at the peak of the Russian and our own Soviet classics are pushed into the background in publications. An asset of spiritual culture belonging to the whole people must not be treated carelessly. Sometimes attempts are made to reduce the leading role of state management in the cultural sphere. The shortcomings of individual workers are transferred to state organs. [paragraph continues]

It is necessary to broaden the rights and powers and to enhance the activeness of creative organizations but not weaken responsibility for the state of affairs in the artistic creativity of state organs. Party leadership of artistic processes means, above all, respect for talent, the education of creative intelligentsia cadres, and the improvement of methods of conviction and ideological influence. There is no other way.

A broad experiment is being conducted now in theatrical affairs. Some people fear that theaters will be turned into commercial places of entertainment. Commerce must not prevail over creativity, over the theater's activity in the ideological, moral, and aesthetic education of people.

A large detachment of the artistic intelligentsia, ideologically united and correctly oriented in the situation, is working in Saratov, Ye.K. Ligachev said in conclusion. It is actively involved in the working people's moral education. The Central Committee secretary wished the people of Saratov successes in this work aimed at restructuring and active involvement in resolving the tasks set by the party.

In the meetings and conversations both in the city and in the countryside working people spoke with warm approval of the party's domestic and foreign policy and of the Soviet country's new peace initiatives. They fully support the measures being taken to combat drunkenness and unearned income, to strengthen order and discipline, and to assert a healthy way of life.

At a party aktiv conference in Saratov CPSU Obkom there was a businesslike and constructive discussion of how to create still more fully the important region's great production, scientific, and technical potential. It was pointed out during an exchange of opinions that the positive changes in various sectors of the national economy have not yet become a stable development trend. On the whole, it has not been possible yet to achieve a new work quality. Insufficiently active use is being made of profound reserves of acceleration.

The reasons for the omissions and shortcomings of party and soviet organizations and economic leaders were exposed at the conference. The party obkom does not always see through to the end what it has begun. Sometimes exactingness toward cadres is of an admonishing nature and inadequately enhances the responsibility of the oblispolkom and its administrations. Some negative features of the CPSU obkom's work style are copied by many party gorkoms and raykoms.

Ye.K. Ligachev was accompanied on his tour of the oblast by A.A. Khomyakov, first secretary of Saratov CPSU Obkom, and N.S. Aleksandrov, chairman of the oblispolkom.

Addresses Aktiv

LD052300 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1800 GMT 5 Mar 87

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] A party aktiv conference was held in Saratov today. Yegor Kuzmich Ligachev addressed those present. [Video shows Ligachev addressing meeting] He said, in part:

[Begin Ligachev recording] To put it bluntly, quite appreciable changes are taking place in the life of Soviet society.

Positive trends are gaining strength. Restructuring of the forms of the organization of the Soviet system is already a reality; it is becoming irreversible. The socio-moral atmosphere in society is definitely taking a turn for the better. There is improved law and order, discipline has strengthened, openness and democratization have been extended. Criticism and exactingness are gaining a foothold. Yet, the pace and depth of changes in the country are not in accord with the plans we have outlined. The changes for the better, as you know, are moving slowly. The socioeconomic development of society still has not acquired the required stability. This may be explained on the one hand by the fact that not all organizations and collectives have yet joined properly in the restructuring process, not everyone has yet undergone a drastic change in consciousness, thought, and the understanding of the need for renewal. On the other hand -- and this is also a fact -- the unsolved problems left over from the past are too great.

The January party Central Committee plenum will occupy a special place in the implementation of the strategy of the party congress toward restructuring all sides of the life of society. Putting it briefly, this was a plenum that was profound in its thoughts and ideas, strict and courageous in its appraisals, and constructive in its conclusions and the practical measures it adopted. For the first time the theory and policy of restructuring was set out on such a scale.

We have every grounds for saying that its decisions were imbued with the spirit of renewal and concern for the present and future of the Communist Party and the Land of the Soviets.

I would like to draw your attention to the following: If a picture of what happened in the 70's and 80's in the economy and in policy was provided at the 27th party congress, and ways of overcoming phenomena which are stagnant and alien to socialism were mapped out, then at the January plenum this analysis was given greater depth, measures toward accelerating our progress were worked out, and -- I would like to stress this -- guarantees were spelled out for preventing a further repetition of mistakes.

The decisions of the January Central Committee plenum and Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's report there have found unanimous support from Communists and all our people. At the same time there has been truly unprecedented interest abroad in its proceedings.

The Central Committee plenum is being seen in the world as an event of historic importance. Our friends abroad are stressing the attractive nature of the restructuring of society on socialist principles. They are saying that the destiny of socialism and the future of the revolutionary movement and, indeed, of the world situation as a whole, will in many ways depend on the success of the changes taking place in the USSR.

The acceleration of the development of our society and its democratization and the broadening of openness is inflicting the most powerful blow on all the fabrications about the hopeless cause of socialism, and refutes the existing ideas about the so-called closed nature of Soviet society. We should bear in mind, comrades, that this expanding openness and criticism in the country has in a very considerable way spoiled things for our enemies, who have spent a long time making petty criticisms of the Soviet social system. Western politicians are now making efforts to discredit the policy of restructuring and democratization in our country and to put a brake on the acceleration of our state's socioeconomic development. We can observe how the word is circulating in the Western mass media that the Soviet electoral system -- I quote: Still will be of a restricted nature because it will give the voter the opportunity of a choice of an individual, but not of a political line.

So you see, they still cherish the hope of weakening our system from within on the path of democratization, and of turning it into a channel of political pluralism. These are just pipe dreams.

Profound restructuring in no way signifies the break-up of our political system. On the contrary, it is a matter of the strengthening of the development of Soviet society, the Soviet system. The great cause of acceleration and restructuring requires immense efforts by the whole party, all its organizations, and all our people. In this connection, it is right to put the following question at our meeting -- for it is going in this direction: What is the situation in your oblast?

First, let us take the sphere of the economy. It is well known that Saratov Oblast is a major industrial and agricultural area, with developed science and culture. There is a vigorous party organization, encompassing 209,000 Communists functioning here, one of the biggest oblast party organizations. However, if one is to assess the state of affairs from the standpoint of the 27th party congress, from the standpoint of the requirements of the party congress -- and that is how it should be -- then it has to be admitted that there are very many unresolved problems in the industry of Saratov Oblast. What is happening?

(?It seems that) as before, individual enterprises are producing one product above-plan, and failing to supply the national economy with the prescribed range of other products. You are aware of what this leads to. It leads to imbalance, and disruption in the work of industry and other branches of the national economy. The transfer to two- or three-shift schedules is being actively implemented at industrial enterprises. Today, this work must be continued, adapting to the utmost to two- or three-shift working schedules in the organization of production and services for the town's population.

I would say that the striving of the Saratov party and local soviet bodies and the labor collectives to transfer as an oblast, as the phrase goes, to the two- or three-shift schedules, at the same time making maximum use of high-productivity equipment, merits the greatest support. At the Road Haulage Association, the managers themselves told me that to put road haulage onto a two-shift work schedule would leave vehicles ready for work, highly productive, and in good repair, and could release a minimum of 1,500 vehicles for use by industry. It is evident from this just how highly effective these measures are. [end recording]

[Announcer] Analyzing the state of affairs in agriculture in Saratov Oblast, Comrade Ligachev noted that there are definite improvements in both arable farming and livestock farming, but at the same time, intensive factors have been brought into play poorly; the yield of agricultural crops is not increasing, and animal husbandry productivity is increasing slowly. The most important thing now for rural workers is to make efficient use of irrigated land as well as the reconstruction of existing land-improvement systems. Comrade Ligachev went on to say:

[Begin Ligachev recording] Quite a lot is being done in Saratov Oblast to strengthen discipline and order, to assert the sober way of life. Turns for the better are evident: The sale and consumption of wine and vodka have been reduced, and fundamentally reduced; people's health is being improved, the death-rate is falling; family ties are becoming more durable; discipline is improving; the workers' capacity for work is increasing overall. However, the work against drunkenness cannot be relaxed, in no event can it be relaxed.

I am pleased to tell you that in accordance with the decisions of the 27th party congress, a great deal of work is being done to strengthen socialist legality, to strengthen protection of the personal rights and freedoms of citizens. A special resolution of the party Central Committee has been passed on this matter. Preparation of a new criminal code is under way at the moment. In the near future a law on the procedure for appeals to the court against the unlawful actions of officials infringing the rights of citizens is to be adopted. Measures are being elaborated to restructure the public prosecutor's supervisory powers, the work of the courts and the investigative organs. All this, as you will understand, is directed toward developing democracy and strengthening discipline, a combination of the rights and duties of officials and of every Soviet citizen.

In conclusion, I would like to say the following: Our successes on the roads of restructuring are tangible and appreciable, but ahead, as you yourselves understand, lies a mass of difficult, but extremely vital work. Today, life demands of every party organization, of every Communist, and of every Soviet person, in whatever sector they work, that they function at full capacity, persistently and with initiative, great success, and a great sense of responsibility.

In the year of the 70th anniversary of Great October, permit me to wish you, comrades, and all the working people of Saratov Oblast, new successes in creative work for the good of the people and in the name of peace and communism, and, on the eve of 8 March, we send the warmest and most cordial congratulations to all women. [applause] [end recording]

MANHUNT IN LENINGRAD, PUBLIC ASKED TO ASSIST

AU091310 Paris AFP in English 1258 GMT 9 Mar 87

[Text] Moscow, March 9 (AFP) -- A large-scale manhunt has been launched in Leningrad, northwest of here, and for the first time Soviet police have appealed through the local press for help in tracking down the "murderer".

Local newspapers published a photograph of the wanted man and readers were warned that he was "armed and dangerous".

The LENINGRADSKAYA PRAVDA quoted a senior Interior Ministry official in Leningrad as saying: "A particularly dangerous criminal has committed several crimes on board the Sverdlovsk-Leningrad train and is probably in town".

Until now it has been rare for such cases to be discussed in the press.

The wanted man is identified as Arturas Sakalauskas, a Lithuanian, aged about 20.

The press also published a detailed description of the clothes he was wearing and gave five telephone numbers which readers could contact if they had information.

UKRAINE TAKES STEPS TO COMPENSATE FOR ARREARS

AU251352 Kiev PRAVDA UKRAINY in Russian 21 Feb 87 p 3

[Unattributed report: "In the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee"]

[Text] The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo has examined the results of work carried out by the republic's industry and other national economic branches, and the practical measures taken to compensate for the arrears incurred in January and February of the current year. It has been noted that the fuel and energy complex, as well as the majority of industrial enterprises coped with the planned tasks. The targets for the extraction of coal, petroleum, and gas were exceeded, and purchases of milk, animals, and poultry increased. However, industry fell short of the January output plan, and the planned output level of many items of production was not achieved. Capital construction volume declined.

Comrade D.P. Galkin, Ukrainian minister of ferrous metallurgy; comrade G.G. Nikitenko, Ukrainian minister of light industry; Comrade V.P. Salo, Ukrainian minister of construction; Comrade A.M. Kozhushko, Donetsk railroad chief; and Comrade V.I. Antonov, Ukrainian Gosplan deputy chairman, explained the causes of the incurred hold-ups, and gave an account of the measures taken to eliminate the shortfalls. It has been pointed out that the shortfall in the plan was caused primarily by omissions in organizational work, by the slow progress made in restructuring the style and methods of management, and by great hold-ups in the performance of transportation and some other economic branches under the complex winter conditions.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has requested ministries, departments, party, administrative, and economic organs, trade union and Komsomol organizations, and labor collectives to take exhaustive measures to overcome the shortfall that was incurred, and to resume the rhythm of fulfilling the annual plan as soon as possible. Particular attention has been called to the need to rapidly eliminate the bottlenecks and shortcomings in controlling national economic branches, to foster discipline, and to strictly comply with contract obligations.

Concrete instructions have been given to the Ukrainian Gosplan, the State Agro-Industrial Committee, the State Committee for the Material Supply of the National Economy, the Ministry of Finance, and other ministries and departments to assist enterprises, associations, and organizations in material-technical supplies, in overcoming the shortfalls, in adopting economic methods of management, and in accomplishing social tasks.

Obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms have been requested to raise the level of party leadership in the economy. The task has been set to take measures in order to intensify and increase the effectiveness of state acceptance, and to resolutely check any attempts to exert pressure on state acceptance functionaries. At all levels it is essential to enhance an atmosphere of good organization and efficiency, of a competent and creative attitude toward the matter at hand, and to increase the economic leaders' personal responsibility for fulfilling state plans.

In connection with the CPSU Central Committee decision on the immediate tasks to organize the implementation of the January CPSU Central Committee Plenum decisions on restructuring and cadre policy, the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has endorsed a working plan.

Progress made in the preparations for the spring sowing has been examined. The kolkhozes, sovhozes, and other enterprises and organizations of the republic's agro-industrial complex are taking the necessary steps to implement the CPSU Central Committee decisions and the decisions of the December 1986 plenum of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee on problems concerning the increased stability of grain production and of farming at large.

At the same time, the Ukrainian State Agro-Industrial Committee, the Ministry of Land Reclamation and Water Resources, the Ministry of Grain Products, and some oblispolkoms are not doing their best under the existing farming and weather conditions to prepare for the spring field work in time, and to cope with their increased volumes. In Vinnitsa, Kiev, Kirovograd, Nikolayev, and Odessa Oblasts, many farms are short of spring grain seeds and seed potatoes, and the quality of seeds is poor at a number of enterprises receiving grain. Progress in preparing sheltered ground facilities for growing vegetables and seedlings is slow.

Kharkov, Dnepropetrovsk, Voroshilovgrad, Zoporozhye, and Crimean Oblasts have fallen short of the schedule for the repair of tractors, irrigation equipment, and watering systems. Some industrial enterprises have not supplied the countryside with spare parts and chemicals. The Ukrainian State Committee for the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry is not fully supplying farms with diesel fuel and gasoline. Kherson, Poltava, and Donetsk Oblasts have fallen short of the plan for training machine operators. Formalism has not been eliminated from the training of machine operators in intensive technologies, as well as in the principles of economic accountability and collective contracting.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has obligated Comrades V.P. Sytnik, A.N. Tkachenko, V.L. Filoneko, V.V. Kuyanov, A.G. Denisenko, and V.A. Lisitsyn, deputy chairmen of the Ukrainian State Agro-Industrial Committee; Comrades V.N. Tkach and I.I. Shmatolyan, ministers; and Comrade N.S. Kotenko, chairman of the Ukrainian State Committee for the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry, to eliminate the existing shortcomings without delay.

The Ukrainian State Agro-Industrial Committee; the Ministries of Grain Products and of Land Reclamation and Water Resources; the southern branch of the Lenin All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences, and party obkoms and oblispolkoms have been requested to make certain that returns from intensive technologies and land amelioration are high everywhere, that the per-hectare and overall yields of corn significantly increase, and that the achievements of science and advanced experience are applied. Attention was called to the need to make use of the favorable conditions in the Forest-Steppe and the Forest Zones to raise yields, to overfulfill the output plans, and to increase sales of grain to the state.

The Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee has examined ways to organize the implementation of the CPSU Central Committee, USSR Council of Ministers, and ACCTU decision on further improvements in services to elderly and disabled persons.

AZERBAIJAN RELEASES PRODUCTION STATISTICS

NC132022 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1700 GMT 10 Feb 87

[Text] The information released by the Azerbaijan SSR Central Statistics Administration on the fulfillment of the economic and social development plan for 1986 was published in the republic's press today. According to the administration, progress was achieved in the effort made in the economic sector to fulfill the decisions adopted by the 27th CPSU Congress and the 31st Azerbaijan Communist Party Congress, and economic productivity was upgraded.

More importance was attached to giving momentum to the realization of the social policy and to the consolidation of the material basis of the social and cultural fields. The national income totaled 11.4 billion rubles on the basis of the current prices. Compared with 1985, industrial production totaled 12.4 billion rubles [as heard], an increase of 583 million.

Agricultural production totaled 3,978,000,000 rubles in 1986. This is less than [words indistinct]. In short, production in the agricultural sector increased by 2.5 percent over the average figure achieved in the middle of the 11th 5-year Plan period. The reorganization of the existing production sectors and the supply of new technical equipment to them increased considerably. The funds allocated for the production establishments in 1986 were 35 percent more than those in the past years. The main capital investment in that field increased by 6 percent.

However, production results have indicated that the reconstruction work carried out last year failed to meet the requirements everywhere in the republic. Reconstruction work carried out by various economic sectors (?lagged behind). Harmony in production was disrupted in various fields. Deficiencies continued in the [word indistinct] and quality of the products and in the dispatch of manufactured products as required by contract. Satisfactory work was not carried out to replace [word indistinct]. The people's needs in terms of goods and services were not fully met.

A certain amount of work was carried out as a result of the consolidation of the administrative and economic mechanisms. A total of 40 percent of the production unions and establishments in the industrial sector operated in accordance with the new economic system, and they produced more than 50 percent of the industrial products. However, the new economic methods were not applied intensively and properly. As a result, the methods referred to failed to make a satisfactory contribution toward the effort made to achieve progress in developing the republic's economic sector.

The administration also revealed that the development plans drawn up for a number of industrial and agricultural sectors were fulfilled with difficulty, and the deadlines that had been established for the use of the principal funds were not kept. These were serious obstacles, preventing a dynamic development in individual areas in Azerbaijan SSR.

The republic's population increased by 100,400 people in 1986. The population totaled 6,888,100 on 1 January 1987.

PRAVDA ON STATE ARBITRATION SYSTEM REVAMPING

PM091129 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 28 Feb 87 First Edition pp 1-2

[Unattributed report: "At the CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers: On Further Improving the Activity of State Arbitration Organs and Enhancing their Role in Strengthening Legality and Contractual Discipline in the National Economy"]

[Text] In the resolution adopted on this question the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers note that the implementation of the socioeconomic tasks set by the 27th CPSU Congress, the active introduction and effective use of the new management methods, broader independence, and the increased responsibility, initiative, and socialist resourcefulness of enterprises and organizations requires the tightening up of the law as it relates to economic relations. Under these conditions the significance of economic contracts and their unconditional fulfillment is increasing all the time.

However, there are quite a few breaches of the financial autonomy rights and interests of enterprises and organizations and serious shortcomings in the practice of contract-making in a number of sectors of the economy. A large number of enterprises and organizations are still failing to meet their contractual commitments. Economic contracts are being inadequately used for the purpose of increasing consumer influence on the shaping of plans, improving the quality and technical standards of products, and expanding their range. Ministry and department normative documents on questions regarding the conclusion and fulfillment of economic contracts are quite often at variance with legislation.

The organs of the State Board of Arbitration have an important role to play in preventing and eliminating such breaches of the law and shortcomings. However, they are not displaying due initiative or determination in this work, are having little effect in ensuring that plan targets and contractual commitments are met by enterprises and organizations, and are failing to exert an appreciable influence on the state of work involved in concluding economic contracts.

With the aim of further tightening up the law relating to economic relations and enhancing the role and responsibility of State Board of Arbitration organs in this work, the CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have instructed the USSR State Board of Arbitration and its collegium to take the necessary measures, in line with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, to improve the style and methods of their activity, to enhance cadres' responsibility, and to substantially increase their influence on tightening up the law and plan and contractual discipline in the national economy. Particular attention is drawn to the need to ensure without fail that the rights and legally enshrined interests of enterprises and organziations are protected under conditions of full financial autonomy and self-financing and that economic methods of administration and management are strengthened.

With this aim in mind the State Board of Arbitration must make full use of the rights invested in it to ensure that legality and high standards are maintained in the resolution of economic disputes and that contractual discipline is tightened up without interference in the operational activity of ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions, or organizations; must enhance the effectiveness of preventive work and improve its coordination with the work of other law-enforcement and monitoring agencies in an endeavor to eliminate the causes and conditions that promote breaches of the law. [paragraph continues]

It must extend its links with the labor collectives of enterprises and organizations to intensify the struggle for the absolute fulfillment of contractual commitments and enhance officials' responsibility in this work, and also ensure that the appropriate educative impact is made by the examination of arbitration cases actually at enterprises and organizations; and must raise in a more principled way questions concerning the accountability of those guilty of breaches of plan and contractual discipline or of bringing disputes to arbitration without due course.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have deemed it necessary to transform the State Board of Arbitration under the USSR Council of Ministers into the USSR State Board of Arbitration, the state boards of arbitration under union and autonomous republic councils of ministers into union and autonomous republic state boards of arbitration, and state arbitration boards under krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, gorispolkoms, and autonomous oblast and autonomous okrug soviets into state arbitration boards of krays, oblasts, cities, autonomous oblasts, and autonomous okrugs.

The organs of the State Arbitration Board have been given broader powers to provide legal backup for the new management conditions and to tighten up the law and contractual discipline.

They have been given the right:

To verify observance at enterprises, institutions, and organizations of the requirements of legislation on questions concerning the conclusion of contracts, compliance with commitments, the application of property sanctions for breaches, and prearbitration settlement of economic disputes, and ministerial and departmental practice in organizing and directing such work; to obtain from ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions, and organizations their prescribed record figures on the conclusion and fulfillment of contracts; and to hear reports from officials on measures to eliminate breaches of the law in the work of concluding contracts and meeting commitments;

To give leaders and other officials of enterprises, institutions, and organizations mandatory instructions regarding the elimination of breaches of legislation on the procedure for concluding contracts and the prearbitration settlement of economic disputes, and regarding the examination of questions concerned with making guilty persons materially accountable in accordance with establishing procedure for damage caused by breaches of legislation in economic activity detected by state arbitration boards;

To check the work of arbitration boards of ministries, departments, and other bodies resolving economic disputes and to issue directives to improve it; to issue to arbitration boards of ministries and departments and to other bodies resolving economic disputes mandatory instructions on eliminating those breaches of legislation committed while resolving economic disputes that have been detected during checks. Mandatory orders issued by State Board of Arbitration organs must be executed and a report submitted on the results to the appropriate state board of arbitration within 10 days.

The State Board of Arbitration and union republic state boards of arbitration have also been authorized to issue instructive directives on questions concerning the application of legislation when contractual work is being executed at enterprises, institutions, and organizations; to draw up and issue in conjunction with ministries and departments discharging the functions of intersectorial administration directives on questions of organizing work on the conclusion of economic contracts.

It has been resolved that normative documents issued by USSR and union republic ministries and departments on questions regarding the conclusion and fulfillment of economic contracts are mandatory for other ministries and departments and their subordinate enterprises, institutions, and organizations and are to be agreed in advance with, respectively, the USSR State Board of Arbitration or the union republic state board of arbitration.

It is proposed that the USSR State Board of Arbitration implement a package of measures to eliminate shortcomings in work with the cadres of arbitration board organs, to improve their selection, placement, and training, to step up demands on cadres to ensure that they discharge their official duty irreproachably, to constantly upgrade cadres' skills, and to improve their vocational training, particularly in the area of economics and modern management and administrative methods.

Union and autonomous republic councils of ministers and krayispolkoms, oblispolkoms, and gorispolkoms are instructed to ensure absolute observance of the law by enterprises, institutions, and organizations in economic activity on their territory, and to increase business ties and collaboration among state arbitration boards and economic leadership bodies with the aim of strengthening planning and contractual discipline and enterprises' economic autonomy and protecting their rights and legitimate interests. Republic and local soviet bodies are to this end required to make more extensive use of the potential of the economic and legal services of enterprises and of departmental and people's control; to submit periodic reports for discussion at sessions of soviets and their standing commissions and to hear at their own sessions reports from leaders of State Arbitration Board organs on the status of legal observance in economic relations and on the work being carried out by them to strengthen it, viewing arbitration activity as an important means of increasing production efficiency; and to take measures to improve the material, technical, and transport backup for and siting of State Arbitration Board organs and material and consumer provision and medical services for their workers.

It is proposed that, on the basis of material received from State Board of Arbitration organs, ministries, departments, enterprises, institutions, and organizations draw up and carry out specific measures to intensify the struggle against breaches of the laws on safeguarding socialist property and against mismanagement, waste, the production of substandard goods, the padding of figures, and other breaches of legislation in economic activity, to report on the measures being taken by State Board of Arbitration organs, to take measures to stop economic disputes being brought to arbitration without due grounds, and to prevent economic leaders avoiding the independent resolution of questions and manifestations of litigiousness in the conclusion and fulfillment of contracts and the prearbitration settlement of disputes.

The USSR State Board of Arbitration, the USSR Prosecutor's Office, the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs, the USSR Ministry of Justice, the USSR Supreme Court, and the USSR People's Control Committee have been set the task of improving coordination and increasing the effectiveness of joint work to prevent, stem, and eliminate by legal means breaches of plan and contractual discipline.

Union republic communist party central committees and party kraykoms, obkoms, and gorkoms, the resolution stresses, must step up party leadership of State Board of Arbitration organs, mindful of the fact that the State Board of Arbitration is required, like other law-enforcement agencies -- the courts, the prosecutor's office, and the organs of justice and internal affairs -- to resolve important tasks in strengthening socialist legality and the legal backup for the restructuring process and the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development.

It is essential to step up the demands placed on State Board of Arbitration organs and their leaders and party organizations to ensure their practical participation in implementing the party's plans for improving the economic mechanism and protecting the rights and legitimate interests of enterprises and institutions and preventing breaches of the law in economic activity.

The CPSU Central Committee and the USSR Council of Ministers have demanded a keener response to cases of mismanagement and abuse, manifestations of localist tendencies and narrow departmentalism, breaches of contractual discipline, and other unlawful actions detected by State Board of Arbitration organs, and that economic leaders and other officials who do not take prompt measures to eliminate such breaches of legality be made strictly accountable.

ECONOMIST AGANBEGYAN INTERVIEWED ON REFORMS

LD061314 Budapest Television Service in Hungarian 2010 GMT 5 Mar 87

["Panorama" program; interview with Soviet Academician Abel Aganbegyan, professor of Economics at the USSR Academy of Sciences, by Peter Horvath in Budapest; Aganbegyan speaks in Russian with superimposed Hungarian translation; date not given, no video available -- recorded]

[Text] [Horvath] What guarantees do you see that the radical reform will not slow down in the Soviet Union? Your answer interests me because you took part not only in the preparation of the present reform, but also in earlier endeavors to modify the economic mechanism.

[Aganbegyan] I could list the guarantees in several points. The first of these is the clarification of the relationship to the past. If one wants to advance then the path has to be cleared; we have to analyze the mistakes of the past objectively. This is not a pleasant task, of course, since we have to rummage in the dirty linen of the past. At such times the point is always raised, as well, that it is easy to be wise after the event, it is easy to pin everything onto the forebears, and so on. This is uncomfortable work, but necesary. The objective appreciation of the past is an unpleasant task especially when it is a question of negative tendencies, of an economic stagnation, such as that which could be experienced in our country in the past 10-15 years. The present leadership is now carrying out such an objective, I might say ruthless, analysis of the past. What is more, they are doing so very purposefully, since, with an eye to the future, they want to draw lessons from this. In my opinion this is the first guarantee.

The second guarantee for the reform is the ideology itself and the entire intellectual life. If we really want to carry out the transformation seriously then we must do this by involving the broadest segments of the public. For this reason we must develop criticism and self-criticism. There is a need for creative debates; we must not accept the decisions in a slavish manner. We must debate the proposals on a wide scale.

We must learn to listen to one another and not to shut one another up. You no doubt know what changes are to be seen in the sphere of ideology. I do not know if this is apparent or not. New films and new literary works are appearing in our country. The newspapers and periodicals have changed radically. The wide-ranging critical rethinking has started of that which has happened so far. All segments of public opinion have made a move. The intelligentsia has become very active. The creative associations have become renewed. This is very important.

The third phenomenon, which belongs here, is the development of democracy. We consider the January party plenum and the decisions adopted there significant also from this point of view -- a turning point that set a program. Important decisions came into being here about increasing economic democracy, political democracy, and the election of leaders and their eligibility. One of the important findings of the plenum was that we may seek the cause of the past mistakes first and foremost in strangling of the democratic initiatives affecting our lives. If we really want to continue the transformation, if we really want it, then the basic condition of this is the widening of democracy, but the best guarantee is life itself. We have no other choice. Do you understand? We have no other alternative to the speeding up of social and economic development. If we have no choice then we must carry this transformation through to the end.

Finally, the recognition of the fact that, as Comrade Gorbachev put it, there is no responsibility for going back, well, in my opinion, this is an important guarantee as well.

[Horvath] Some are of the opinion that the Soviet economic reform started from above. If this is so, then on whom does the leadership rely?

[Aganbegyan] That is stated from above? That is not so, or to be more precise it is not quite so. You know, the reform started from above and from below. From above, for example, the system of collective undertaking was proclaimed in general terms. At the same time the workers themselves were proposing that all the construction industry trusts and enterprises, should go over to collective-accounting undertakings. It is difficult to count such things, but in spite of that, economists tried to make a national assessment and it emerged that about 600 different kinds of movements and experiments of the widest variety had started in the country. Some are viable, some are not, but this also indicates what an active movement has started from below. The task of the leaders now is not to think up new forms by looking at the ceiling. This is perhaps the most dangerous thing of all to do. Now the new economic reform must be elaborated with life as the starting point.

[Horvath] Of course, this coin also has another side. Would you say something in concrete terms about who and what forces are obstructing the realization of the reform?

[Aganbegyan] Such forces exist on nearly every level: In the party, the council, the organs of economic management, in the significant part of central authorities, including the ministries, the Planning Office, the Finance Ministry, the banks, and the all-federation industrial associations. It is not possible to determine a concrete address. There are those people who, as the consequence of the transformations, are losing some of their rights. Why do they lose them? Because the basic concept of the economic mechanism is the large-scale increase of enterprise independence. Spheres of authority are being divided up anew, to the benefit of the enterprises. Together with this, interference in the work of the enterprise and petty tutelege over the work of the enterprises, must be eliminated. Well, those people who up to now felt themselves to be masters of the situation, who distributed the raw materials, and who gave instructions, can no longer do this. It is not only their sphere of authority, a part of their sphere of authority, that they are losing but, together with this, their privileges as well. Many links in the chain of the directing apparat have simply become superfluous.

The middle level is created here by the all-union industrial associations -- the trusts. The majority of them will probably be disbanded.

Now, in the new situation, many central organs and ministries which up to now carried out merely operative tasks will also become unnecessary. There is no need for them any longer. The tasks of the middle-level leaders, another significant segment of the central apparat, will change. Many are protesting against this. Let us say that up to now you have worked at the Planning Office. You have become used to issuing direct instructions to the enterprises regarding what they should produce and how much they should produce. This method will now disappear and it is said economic regulators should be used. However, in reality you do not even know what they are, you have never come across this method. Thus, you might feel that you are no longer on firm ground. After all, you have worked in the accustomed way for decades.

Naturally, this is the first group. This is where their active resistance comes from. As for their words: They are in favor of the transformation; they appreciate intellectually that it is necessary, but when some sort of resolution appears concerning the expansion of enterprise independence, then they issue instructions which in essence revert matters into old channels.

They do not want to hand over real authority.

For example, a decision was made that the enterprises could increase their development funds, with the full value of the depreciation and a proportion of the profits. The enterprise can use these sums independently for renovation, technical reconstruction, building and so on. The Ministry of Electro-Technology, the old leadership, immediately issued instructions that the enterprises must submit their technical development plans to the ministry. They wrote to the bank, saying that the Investment Bank could pay the sums asked for from the development funds only with the development plans approved by the ministry. This is the worst form of administrative intervention. This is how the enterprises were robbed, rather crudely, from behind, of their rights. The struggle goes on. Now a law is being prepared above the heads of this group, of the ministry, and certain directing organs, concerning the state enterprises and associations. The social debate of the draft has begun.

The second group comprises the conservative-thinking managers, directors and cooperative chairman. Now, when it appears that there will not be instructions, that they will have to manage the resources independently, and will have to be responsible for their management, they do not feel strong enough to undertake this. They are afraid of independence. Yes, they are afraid of being independent. What is more, if they are given independence, they fail to make use of it. They continue to ask permission to do this or that, even though they do not need permission any more.

[Horvath] So this is the second group.

[Aganbegyan] Yes, the second group has in general become isolated from the workers. In general, these people have been appointed managers from above. They are afraid of elections. Some of these people are very concerned about the fact that managers will be elected. They regard this as wrong, as the undermining of management. They always regarded themselves as representatives of the higher organs and now, suddenly, they can remain managers only if they are elected. This is the second group.

The third group comes from among the ranks of enterprise workers, including some of the low-level office-holders.

These are people who earn more money or gain a larger income than is porportional to their work. They do poor work but receive their salaries. These are the factory magpies. There are also those who make use of their official positions, in general to benefit themselves, or who moonlight. The conditions are already becoming stricter; it is demanded that they should work for the same money. Of course, they are now dissatisfied because they have become used to receiving their wages even if they only work at half speed. Now, when better work is required from them, they are demanding more wages.

[Horvath] It follows from the long-term ideas, from the nature of the reform, that the reform will produce rewards only in the future, but people expect immediate and constant improvements. What is your view of this paradoxical phenomenon?

[Aganbegvan] In order for us to achieve results we must renew production. We must replace the old machines with new ones, we must begin the production of new and more economical goods. We must supply the economy with these more efficient products and the bad ones must be withdrawn. Once we have done this, there will be results. For this we need 5 to 7 to 10 years. The essence of our strategy is to achieve an immediate acceleration by using the internal, organizational, economic, and social reserves. Then, we want to strengthen this acceleration with the help of scientific-technological development.

I have to admit that for the moment rather few really significant changes can be observed. If, for example, we look at the Moscow shops, the supply of fruit and vegetables has visibly improved. The average person does not notice changes regarding the supply of other goods. Though on the whole an improvement can be noted in this sphere as well. The sale of meat and milk products has increased by 6 to 7 percent; but as yet this is not noticeable. There has not yet been a great change sufficient enough for people to feel it, but some progress has already been made. This gives rise to optimism and self-confidence, at least this is what I feel.

[Horvath] If we look at the technological gap between the East and the West, apart from the Soviet military industry it would be difficult to find a branch which comes out well in the comparison. The question is, what possibility do you see for introducing the achievements in the area of military technology into civilian production in a more flexible manner?

[Aganbegyan] We do not hide the fact that we are lagging behind. Let me give you some date regarding engineering. Our national surveys in engineering have shown that 29 percent of our civilian products are in line with world standards and 71 percent lag behind. We must eliminate the production of the latter groups and must make new products instead, and, naturally new groups of products. Consequently we must radically increase the proportion of engineering products belonging to the new generation. In 1985 3.1 percent of engineering products were replaced by new products. In 1990 we want to change 13 percent for new products; this is how steeply this proportion is increasing. During the 5-year plan as a whole, we want to change more than half of the products for new ones. In order to achieve this, the growth rate of investment in engineering will treble. In the 11th 5-year Plan it will be 24 percent and in the 12th it will be 80 percent. The change of manufacturing installations is also being accelerated. During the 5 years more than half of the machines and installations must be replaced with new ones in order to create the technological base for the new products.

Naturally, in this work the use of the achievements of the progressive branches, including the defense industry, in civilian industry is very important. Together with this, some of the specialists will be redeployed from the defense industry to other branches. The leading enterprises of certain transportation branches and design institutes connected with the defense industry will also participate in the realization of more civilian orders, first and foremost in the manufacture of light industry machinery and installations.

New production technologies will also be handed over. It is possible, even likely, that this will not be realized in as wide a sphere as would be possible.

[Horvath] And as would be necessary?

[Aganbegyan] And as would be necessary. However, this work is also underway. There is progress being made. We are aware that there is a significant lag. Incidentally, the fundamental problem of scientific-technological progress arises in the sphere of using the scientific achievements. The situation is that we have many scientific and technological achievements, models and these are good, since Soviet science is advanced. The fundamental cause of our lagging behind is not that we do not know what has to be done, what technological solutions must be developed, or that we could not develop it -- this is not the case. We do not mass-produce the prototype copy; we do not produce it in large quantities. The change of the product structure was done badly here; for decades we have produced old, out-of-date goods. Consequently, when we are asked -- we are often asked to give interviews in the course of our Western travels as well -- whether we could manage without Western technology, my reply is that on the whole, yes, because there is a rather large reserve of scientific-technological achievements here. Our main problem is to achieve this.

Naturally, we are involved in wide-ranging cooperation, because no country, however large, let it be the United States or West Germany, or Japan, can exist on the strength of its own development work alone. They take the best results from each other, and we do the same.

BATALIN INTERVIEWED ON INVESTMENT CHANGES

AU070529 Sofia ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME (OKTOMVRIYSKA SVETLINA Supplement) in Bulgarian 1 Mar 87 pp 1, 2

[Interview with Yuriy Batalin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Construction Committee, by Vasiliy Ivanov dispatched through NOVOSTI for the ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME weekly supplement OKTOMVRIYSKA SVETLINA published in joint cooperation between ZEMEDELSKO ZNAME and NOVOSTI -- exact date and place of interview not given]

[Text] [Ivanov] The 1st year of the current 5-year plan period has elapsed. What has been accomplished in connection with the new investment policy?

[Batalin] I will stress that the investment policy being implemented today is truly new. It was worked out on the basis of the concept for the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development.

It is a well-known fact that during the last 5-year plan period growth in capital investments was considerably restricted. [paragraph continues]

During the 8th and 9th 5-Year Plan periods this growth amounted to 43 and 41 percent respectively, while during the 10th 5-Year Plan period this rate was reduced to 28 percent, and during the 11th 5-Year plan period it dropped to 17 percent. This situation can be explained with a number of reasons, including the restriction of investment resources and a certain lagging behind in the development of the building organizations' capacities.

The rate of acceleration made it necessary to seriously revise our capital investment policy. In assessing the need for a radical restructuring of our national economy and the necessity of large-scale housing construction and for the construction of sociocultural projects, it was decided to increase the rate of growth in capital investment to approximately 24 percent during the 12th 5-Year Plan period. The absolute value of these investments will amount to approximately R3 billion within 5 years.

Another important trend to be followed in restructuring our investment policy is the new distribution of capital investments to the advantage of the modernization of existing enterprises. This is not a new issue, but the process of effecting it proceeded very slowly in the past. By the end of the 12th 5-Year Plan period the financial resources for this goal will increase by 50 percent.

Considerable changes are taking place in the branch structure of capital investments. The volume of resources allocated for the machine building sector, which is the basic branch for the re-equipping of our national economy, drastically increased. During the 12th 5-Year Plan period these resources will increase 1.9 times. In implementing other national economic programs, such as fuel and energy, food supply, the application of chemical engineering in the national economy, and the production of building materials, capital investments will be focused on those spheres which are of decisive importance for perfecting the quality of our production and for increasing its effectiveness.

[Ivanov] Yuriy Petrovich, what about the difference in quality between the new economic mechanism in the construction sector and the methods of the past?

[Batalin] Contractual relations between investors and building organizations in the past were only formal. The state practically assumed the functions of the investor, while the direct participants in the investment process often manifested a careless attitude and irresponsibility in evaluating the final results of work.

Under the present conditions the agreement about labor organization on a brigade basis must become a basic document which will determine the mutual relations between investors and building organizations as well as their mutual economic responsibilities.

The transition to prices established on the basis of agreement in the building industry sector will become a qualitatively new stage in the development of contractual relations between the investor and the builder. The construction, assembly, engineering, and other organizations participating in the construction of building projects, as a result of the transition to prices based on contracts, have a direct interest in improving both planning and technological solutions, as well as in introducing efficient methods, designs, and finished products likely to improve the organization of construction work; they are interested in using the most up-to-date machines and equipment.

The effectiveness of the method based on using contractual prices was confirmed by the experience of Belorussia. Wherever these methods were applied, the construction expenditures diminished by an average of 5 percent, while in the past they had usually increased.

We must point out that the economic levers contributing to the implementation of contractual pledges and to the timely commissioning of building projects serve, on the one hand, as encouragement and, on the other, provide for severe economic sanctions. A document according to which payment for work on building projects is carried out within the limit of 95 percent if their total value, is already in force. The final payment is made following the completion of the building project and on the basis of a document compiled by the State Acceptance Commission. In the event of a failure to implement the 4-month plans envisaged by the agreement on brigade labor organization according to technological stages and complexes [tekhnologichni etapi i kompleksi] the building workers are not paid and they are not included in the report on plan fulfillment as long as they have not made up for their delay.

[Ivanov] Decisions were adopted in 1986 for the management of capital investment construction work? What is being accomplished in this respect?

[Batalin] The expansion of the independent work and responsibility of economic organizations depending upon the results of their activities, as well as the transition to new economic management methods made it necessary to increase the efficiency of centralized leadership. A USSR State Construction Committee was established and is operating. It is a permanent organ of the USSR council of Ministers for leadership of the country's building sector.

Serious restructuring has been accomplished in all-union construction ministries as well.

A transition to economic management methods and a rejection of unnecessary, petty supervision over the building organizations is now in progress. A positive role will be played in this respect by a considerable reduction in the number of centralized departments under the construction ministries.

[Ivanov] Can you describe the impact made by restructuring on the work of the building workers and organizations in 1986?

[Batalin] The state of capital construction improved. The share of the basic building projects that were commissioned considerably increased. The situation of building projects in the social area has improved. The indexes of the efficiency of production in the building sector increased as well. Labor productivity rose 4.2 percent as compared to the 2.9 percent envisaged by the plan and the expenditures for the construction of building projects have decreased.

Within the forthcoming 1 or 2 years the building and assembly departments, the trusts, and other organizations of an equivalent level must be transferred to work based on brigade organization. This method of work will enable them to coordinate the measures connected with perfecting management from the top with the development of collective forms of organization and of labor incentives on lower levels, and this will make it possible to involve a broad strata of the working people in improving the effectiveness of production and to mobilize the human factor.

OGARKOV, SOKOLOV AT ARMY AKTIV MEETING IN GDR

PM091511 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 7 Mar 87 First Edition p 2

[Report by correspondents Lt Col A. Vasilets and Lt Col I. Kosenko: "To Act Without Delay. Party Aktiv Meeting"]

[Excerpts] How are the ideas of restructuring implemented in Communists' actions? What has already been achieved, what creates hindrances, and how to overcome more vigorously the force of inertia? What measures ought to be implemented to bring work with military cadres more fully in line with the demands of the time? These questions were at the focus of attention of participants in a meeting of the party aktiv from the Group of Soviet Forces in Germany, which discussed the results of the CPSU Central Committee January (1987) Plenum and the tasks for commanders, political organs, and party organizations stemming from its decisions.

"Even though the process of restructuring is gathering pace, it cannot satisfy all of us today," Army General V. Velikov, comander in chief of the group of forces, said in his report. "Speaking of positive changes, there has been a noticeable turnabout in the struggle for qualitative indicators in combat training. The responsibility, creativeness, and initiative of cadres are being enhanced, and ideas about the style and methods of leadership are being reviewed. Many commanders and chiefs have drawn closer to their subordinates, and take the potential of the human factor more fully into account in their work in solving the set tasks...." [passage omitted]

The task of stepping up work with cadres demands a particular stance by party organizations. It was said at the meeting that direct [pryamolineynyy] approaches are still dominant here. Party organizations must act on a broad front, and should not limit their involvement in cadres policy only to supplying party references on occasions of official appointments and transfers. It is understandable that this is also a very important matter, and that it is necessary to enhance the principledness of party organizations in the assessment of people. But the issue goes beyond this.

Influence on cadres also covers the work of party organizations to give them profound mastery of the theoretical foundations and practical problems of restructuring, and the improvement of the entire process of their Marxist-Leninist tempering and their training as commanders. This means aiming for each and everyone's activeness in the political education of servicemen. It also means resolute eradication of an unsuitable style of work, indifference, and arrogance, and affirmation of lofty morality and genuine businesslike efficiency. It is necessary to learn to work under conditions of growing respect for human dignity and expanding publicity and intraparty democracy.

By no means does everyone pass the test of restructuring and enhanced moral demands on the individual. Colonel A. Vladimirov, for example, was totally incapable of understanding that no one at all has the right to be willful. His reaction to justified criticism of shortcomings was as follows: He cancelled Captain N. Akimov's entitlement to a monetary reward and filed documents for his retirement to the reserve. Justice prevailed only after intervention by superiors.

It is very important, the meeting emphasized, to inculcate in Communists the feeling of sharp rejection of everything that runs contrary to restructuring and our moral norms. [paragraph continues]

If each party organization were to launch a genuine struggle against all sorts of simplifications and indulgences in combat training, formalism in party political work, and distortions of disciplinary practice, if each party organization were to react in an uncompromising fashion to every instance where study sessions or exercises are conducted in a slipshod manner or where they break down, every instance of inattention to questions of the personnel's daily life, of indifference toward subordinates, of drunkenness, and so on, this would really be a sign of changes in the mentality of Communists and the stance of party organizations. And here it is important to always follow the slogan: Act without delay!

The majority of speakers at the meeting emphasized that the key to the solution of all problems lies in correct cadres policy. It was noted that it is impermissible to blindly and formally adhere to the so-called age qualifications and service record priorities in appointments to office. Political, moral, and businesslike qualities must always be the decisive ones. It is necessary to eradicate moral diseases like flattery, toadyism, careerism, money-grubbing, and use of service position for personal interests. Communist leaders, political organs, cadres organs, and primary party organizations must, first and foremost, restructure their own activity, thereby ensuring restructuring in all other links.

The party aktiv meeting was addressed by Marshal of the Soviet union S. Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister.

Taking part in the party aktiv meeting's work were Marshal of the Soviet Union N. Ogarkov, and Lieutenant General V. Lukinykh, chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main political Directorate's Party Organizational Work Directorate.

SOKOLOV ADDRESSES ARMED FORCES OFFICERS' WIVES

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[From the "I Serve the Soviet Union" program; speech by Marshal of the Soviet Union Sergey Leonidovich Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Soviet minister of defense, at a meeting of leaders of the Soviet Ministry of Defense and the Main Political Directorate of the Soviet Army and Navy with the Women's Aktiv of the Armed Forces at the Central Soviet Army Club on the eve of International Women's Day -- recorded]

[Text] [Sokolov] Our esteemed comrades and women. We have prepared well for this meeting with you and we consider it to be of great significance in the fulfillment of those tasks which the armed forces are facing, and which were recently confirmed at the January Central Committee plenum.

You know that the plenum was an important event in the life of our motherland, in the life of the Soviet people. That is why the plenum and its decisions are being unanimously supported by the Soviet people and also approved and supported by servicemen. The plenum examined the important question of how reconstructuring our lives is taking place, and what problems must be solved to accelerate this necessary process for our motherland.

All that was discussed at the plenum on the question of restructuring is also fully pertinent to our Army and Navy. That is why we too attach great significance to the approach and fulfillment of its decisions.

There are difficulties and inconveniences which, I would say, a military person naturally suffers, because he cannot live a settled life, but has to serve where he is ordered. This, in some respects, is reflected in his family, and that is why active work, careful attention to every family in each unit, is needed. It is precisely here that individual work is required and, as the speakers here have noted in all fairness, the work must start with the young family, which has arrived in a unit for the first time accompanying a young officer.

All of us, including myself and the senior military personnel present, began our service as lieutenants. Moreover, we all started our service where we were sent. That is why, when we speak of the family, we understand the world in all its ramifications, because the family forms and helps us. Sometimes that goes unnoticed. Sometimes, officers' wives find this disheartening, but when a wife puts her soul into the family, and when the tired officer, often dirty and wet, returns home and is met with a smile, attention, and kindness, he quickly regains his strength and is once again ready for the main task of his profession -- the defense of the motherland.

Currently, preparation for a worthy reception for the 70th anniversary of our October Revolution is in full swing across the country. Our armed forces cannot remain on the sidelines. I would like to ask you to actively participate in preparations in your units, where you serve together with your husbands, where women's councils exist, so that this event will make us proud. I would also like to ask you to make this talk of ours known to all the women in our Army and Navy, and that women's councils become active, organized collectives and act as guides in the improvement of all family work.

Allow me, in the name of the Defense Ministry collegium and from myself personally, to congratulate you warmly on this wonderful spring holiday, to wish you health, family happiness, and, of course, improvement in the work of the women's council.

[Video shows Lizichev, Volkogonov, Tereshkova, Koldunov, Chernavin, and other officers attending the meeting]